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JOURNAL 32631
OF THE
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
CONVENTION
OF THE
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN THE

STATE OF VERMONT,
HELD AT MANCHESTER ON THE 26TH DAY OF JUNE,
1822:

TO WHICH IS PREFIXED THE
CONSTITUTION
Of the Convention,

TOGETHER WITH
ABSTRACTS
OF THE JOURNALS OF THE CONVENTIONS OF 1820 AND 1821.

BELLOWS FALLS:
PRINTED BY BLAKE, CUTLER AND CO.
1822.



CONSTITUTION

Of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the state of Vermont, as revised and adopted in Convention at Shelburne, A. D. 1830.

ARTICLE I. The various Churches in Vermont shall be considered as united in one Convention in subordination to the General Convention of the United States.

ART. II. The said Convention shall meet annually on the fourth Wednesday in June, at such place as shall be appointed at a previous meeting; and all Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, residing in this state, shall be entitled to seats in Convention; and Lay Delegates from the several Churches in this State shall be entitled to seats in the said Convention, in the following proportion, to wit: Each Church shall have the privilege of sending at least one member; if it consists of ten or more communicants, then it may send two members, and for every twenty-five communicants, excepting the numbers above specified, the said Churches shall be entitled to one additional member.

ART. III. The Convention shall deliberate and act in one body; but shall vote in distinct orders, when any member shall call for such a division on any one question; and in such case a concurrence of a majority of both orders shall be necessary to constitute a vote.

ART. IV. A President, Secretary and Standing Committee shall be chosen at every annual meeting of the Convention; and when there is to be a session of the General Convention within the ensuing year, the requisite delegation shall be appointed to represent this State in that body; also as long as this State shall belong to the Eastern Diocese, a delegation shall be appointed to attend each Diocesan Convention at the next preceding annual Convention, or at some meeting spec-

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CONSTITUTION

Of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the state of Vermont, as revised and adopted in Convention at Shelburn, A. D. 1820.

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ART. II. The said Convention shall meet annually on the fourth Wednesday in June, at such place as shall be appointed at a previous meeting; and all Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, residing in this state, shall be entitled to seats in Convention; and Lay Delegates from the several Churches in this State shall be entitled to seats in the said Convention, in the following proportion, to wit: Each Church shall have the privilege of sending at least one member; if it consists of ten or more communicants, then it may send two members, and for every twenty-five communicants, excepting the numbers above specified, the said Churches shall be entitled to one additional member.

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S. V. Harkness. 1820. 24 p. 6.00

ally warned for that purpose. Provided, however, that no person shall be a member of the Standing Committee, or shall represent this State in the General or Diocesan Convention, unless he be a regular Communicant in the Church. Provided, also, that when the Bishop of the Diocese shall be present in Convention, he shall, *ex-officio*, be President. The Convention may from time to time, if deemed expedient, appoint a prudential Committee to superintend the prudential concerns of the Church.

ART. V. If at any time a Bishop is to be elected by this Convention, the Secretary, by order of the President or Standing Committee, shall write to the Minister or one of the Wardens of each Church, at least six weeks before the election is to take place, and give notice of the time and place appointed for such election, and request, that delegates may attend the Convention for the purpose ; and in every such election, the Convention shall vote in distinct orders—the Clerical order shall make a nomination by ballot, and a majority of the Lay Delegates shall approve the appointment, before the person shall be considered elected.

ART. VI. No alteration shall be made in this Constitution except in annual Convention ; nor unless proposed and reduced to writing at a previous Convention.

ART. VII. The Bishop or Standing Committee shall have power to call a special Convention, by giving six weeks previous notice to the Minister or one of the Wardens of each particular Church.

ABSTRACT

Of the Journal of the Convention held at Shelburn on the 28th day of June, A. D. 1820.

Rev. Abraham Bronson, President; Josiah Dunham, Esq. Secretary, and Rev. Joel Clap, Assistant Secretary.

Parochial reports were presented from eleven Churches; namely, Manchester, Arlington, Sandgate, Sheldon, Fairfield, St. Albans, Berkshire, Montgomery, Shelburn, Windsor and Guilford. Baptisms 99—Deaths 35—whole number of Communicants 391.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to revise the Constitution :

The following gentlemen were chosen—Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Stephen Beach, Mr. Daniel Henshaw and Dorcas Wooster, Esq. A revised Constitution was reported and adopted as above.

The Committee appointed for the purpose of devising means to defray the expense of prosecuting the suit for the recovery of the " Society Lands " so called, in this State, *report* ; That the several Episcopal Churches and Societies in this State be called on to raise each the sums herein after mentioned, as soon as may be, and forward the same to Daniel Chipman, Esq taking his receipt therefor.

Arlington	-	-	-	-	\$ 20
Sandgate	-	-	-	-	8
Manchester	-	-	-	-	10
Pawlet & Wells	-	-	-	-	10
Rutland					20



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- Grace Church, Sheldon,—Baptisms, 5. Marriage, 1. Deaths, 2. Communicants, 47.—Excommunicated, 1.

Rev. STEPHEN BEACH, *Rector*.

Union Church, St. Albans,—Baptisms, 2. Death 1. Communicants, 18.

Rev. STEPHEN BEACH, *Minister*.

There have been six children baptized in St. Paul's Church; Windsor, and one at Bethel; Marriages, 3. Deaths, 4. Communicants, 35.

Rev. GEORGE LEONARD, *Rector*.

Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls,—Baptisms, 5. Deaths, 2. Marriages, 4. Communicants, 25. During the past year this Church has been favoured with a bequest of \$1,000, by a lady lately deceased in the city of New-York.

Rev. CARLTON CHASE, *Minister*.

Trinity Church, Shelburn,—Baptisms, 17. Deaths, 3. Marriages, 2. Communicants, 47.—Families, 55.

Rev. JOEL CLAP, *Rector*.

——— Church, Berkshire,—Baptisms, 5. Marriages, 2. Death, 1. Communicants, 28.

——— Church, Montgomery,—Baptisms, 7. Deaths, 2. Families, 14. Communicants, 27.

——— Church, Enosburgh,—Families, 16. Communicants, 11.

Rev. JOURDAN GRAY, *officiating in the three Churches*.

Christ Church, Guilford,—Baptisms, 6. Marriages, 3. Deaths, 5. Communicants, 75.

Rev. ALFRED L. BAURY, *Minister*.

——— Church, Middlebury,—Baptisms, 8. Marriages, 2. Communicants, 30.

A Church was organized in Bethel, in the month of April, 1821, the accounts of which, presented by Mr. C. C. Brainerd, lay reader, are highly interesting.

Standing Committee for the year ensuing,—Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. George Leonard, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Joel Clap.

Prudential Committee,—Hon. Daniel Chipman, George Cleveland, Esq. Hon. J. H. Hubbard.

The following persons were appointed Delegates to represent the Church in this State in the General Convention,—Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. George Leonard, Rev. Carlton Chase, and Rev. Joel Clap, clerical ;—Joshua Isham, Esq. George Cleveland, Esq. Mr. Alexander Fleming and Dr. Eliza Sheldon, lay.

Delegates to the Diocesan Convention,—Rev. A. Bronson, Rev. G. Leonard, Rev. J. Clap and Rev. S. Beach, clerical ; Mr. Samuel A. Wilkins, William Barber, Esq. Mr. Richard D. Parker and Mr. John Bellamy, lay.

Resolved; That in case any or either of the Delegates appointed by this Convention to attend the General and Diocesan Conventions, should not find it convenient to fulfil their appointment, they shall have power to choose substitutes, subject to the Constitutional provision.

A communication from the Secretary of the General Convention, containing a proposed alteration of the Constitution of that Convention relative to the time of holding its triennial meetings and investing the presiding Bishop in certain cases with the power to alter the place where the same shall be held, was read ; and the Convention voted,

That this Convention does not approve of the proposed alteration.

Rev. Abraham Bronson is nominated by this Convention as a Trustee of the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America

agreeable to the third Article of the Constitution of said Seminary.

Resolved, That the Clergy of this State be requested to preach in their several churches, and to solicit contributions, once or more in each year for the benefit of the Protestant Episcopal Missionary society in this State ;—and that they be requested to perform similar duties in the several vacant Parishes in this State.

Resolved, That the Rev. Carlton Chase and Rev. Joel Clap be a Committee to make an abstract of the proceedings of the State Convention for the three years last past, and to superintend the printing of the same, together with the Constitution and Canons of the Church in this State.

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of this Convention be held at St. Albans, unless it shall be seasonably ascertained, that the Church, now building in Berkshire, will not be consecrated about the time of said meeting: in which case the President shall have power to appoint said meeting at Middlebury by giving timely notice of the same to the various Churches in the State.

The Rev. Carlton Chase appointed to preach before the next Convention, and the Rev. George Leonard, his substitute.

Adjourned *sine die*.

ATTY,

JOEL CLAP, *Secretary*.

CANONS

Of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Vermont.

CANON I.

OF THE MODE OF TRYING CLERGYMEN ACCUSED OF MISDEMEANOR.

Whenever the Standing Committee shall have reason to suspect a Clergyman of this Church to be guilty of infidelity, heresy, vice, or irregularity of any kind, it shall be their duty to inquire into the circumstances of the case; and if upon investigation they consider the crime worthy of notice, they shall report thereupon to the Bishop, who may summon a council of his Clergy, not less than three; a copy of the charge, and due notice of the time and place of trial being likewise communicated to the party accused; and after a full and fair investigation of the subject, the Bishop may pronounce sentence in the case. And if any Minister, degraded agreeable to this Canon, shall consider himself aggrieved, he shall be allowed an appeal to the house of Bishops.

CANON II.

OF THE MODE OF FORMING AND ORGANIZING CHURCHES.

Whenever any number of persons in this State shall form themselves into a regular society of the persuasion of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in such a manner, as that they will become a body corporate according to law, and their proceedings shall be sanctioned by the Bishop of the Diocese, or in case of no Bishop by the Standing Committee of the State Convention, they shall be admitted to all the rights and privileges of a regular Church; subject, however, at all times to the authority and discipline of said Bishop, or if there is no Bishop, of said Standing Committee.

JOURNAL

OF THE

32632

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE

STATE OF VERMONT,

HELD AT MIDDLEBURY ON THE 24TH DAY OF JUNE,

1823.

MIDDLEBURY:

PRINTED BY J. W. COPELAND.

1823.



PROCEEDINGS.

MIDDLEBURY, WEDNESDAY JUNE 25th, 1823.

THIS being the day appointed by the Constitution, for the annual meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Vermont, several Clergymen and Lay-Delegates, assembled in the Church at Middlebury, at half past nine o'clock, A. M.

The Rev. Abraham Bronson was elected President, and Rev. Joel Clap, Secretary.

Present, Rev. Abraham Bronson,
Rev. Benjamin B. Smith,
Rev. Joel Clap,
Rev. Carlton Chase,
Rev. Samuel B. Shaw,
Rev. Elijah Brainard.

The following Lay-Delegates presented certificates of their respective appointments and took their seats.

Noble Hand, from Bethel and Bethesda Churches, Arlington.
Jesse Hand, and }
Truman Purdy, } from Zion Church, Manchester.
Abijah Hawley, from Trinity Church, Fairfield.
John Richardson, and }
Samuel A. Wilkins, } from Union Church, St. Albans,
John S. Gallup, from Grace Church, Sheldon.
Amherst Willoughby, from — Church, Berkshire.
William Barber, from — Church, Berkshire.
John L. Clap, from Union Church Montgomery.

On motion, Resolved, That the Rev. Moses Burt, from the Diocese of New-York, be invited to an honorary seat in this Convention.

On motion, adjourned for the purpose of attending ~~day~~ service.

Morning Prayers were read by the Rev. Samuel B. Shaw, and a Sermon preached by the Rev. Carlton Chase ; the Holy Communion was administered by the Rev. President, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Shaw. After which, the Convention met according to adjournment.

Hon Daniel Chipman, Lay Delegate from — Church in Middlebury, exhibited his credentials, and took his seat.

Cotesworth P. Bronson, having satisfied the Convention of his appointment, as a Lay Delegate from St. Matthew's Church, Sandgate, was admitted to his seat.

On motion, adjourned until 3 o'clock this evening.

3 o'clock, P. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment. Samuel B. Booth, Lay Delegate from Vergennes, presented his credentials, and took his seat.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Chase, Resolved, that a Committee of three be appointed to revise the Canons of the Church in this State.

The following gentlemen were appointed the Committee. Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Benjamin B. Smith and Hon. Daniel Chipman.

The following Parochial Reports were presented and read :

Bethel and Bethesda Churches, Arlington,—Marriage, 1. Funerals, 11. Communicants, 80.

Zion Church, Manchester,—Baptisms, 5. Marriage, 1. Funerals, 5. Communicants, 57. These Churches, for the last year, have suffered much from deaths and removals, and but one Communicant has been added to each.

ATTEST, ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Minister*.

Immanuel Church, at Bellows Falls, continues in a flourishing condition. Nothing worthy of particular notice has taken place.

during the past year. Marriage, 1. Deaths, 3. Communicants, 26. It is expected, that a considerable number of children will soon be baptized.

C. CHASE, *Rector.*

The Parish in Middlebury has been called to contend with numerous difficulties and discouragements. It is long since they have enjoyed the ministrations of a stated Pastor. And the faith and hope of its friends have been tried to the uttermost. They have been discouraged by the removal and death of some of their warmest supporters, and they have, in some instances, been forsaken by their firm friends, who were finally discouraged by the low prospects of the Church. But a new impulse appears now to be felt. Very active exertions are making to render the small house where they worship more commodious, and to provide a fixed maintenance for a permanent minister. Encouraging hopes are now entertained that they will see days of prosperity according to the days in which they have seen adversity. And it is hoped that fervent prayers are ascending, and will continue to ascend, for God's special blessing upon those exertions which are making for the advancement of his kingdom in the midst of us. The number of Communicants has been greatly diminished by death and removal. It is now only 27. The number of baptisms the last year has been only three; one by the Rev. Mr. Bronson, and two by the present Pastor.

BENJ. B. SMITH.

Trinity Church, Fairfield,—Communicants, 60. Deaths, 2. Adults.

E. BRAINARD,

Missionary, transiently since December last.

Grace Church, Sheldon,—Baptisms, 3. Communicants, 42.

E. BRAINARD, *Missionary.*

The Episcopal Church at St. Albans. There have been births, 3. Baptisms, 2. Number of Communicants 11. Removals within the last year 7.

E. BRAINARD, *Supplying.*

Trinity Church, Shelburn,—Baptisms—Adults, 7, Children, 10—Total, 17. Marriages, 3. Funerals, 6. Communicants, 62.

JOEL CLAP, *Rector*.

Union Church, Montgomery,—Communicants, 24.

— Church, Enosburgh,—Communicants, 12.

— Church, Berkshire,—Baptism, 1. Communicants, 27.

These Parishes have sustained a very great loss, in the sudden death of their worthy and much beloved Minister, the Reverend JOURDAN GRAY, whose clerical labours were peculiarly acceptable to the people of his charge, and the unblemished holiness and piety of his life had endeared him to a numerous circle of friends, among whom, the prospect of his future usefulness was continually brightening, until the Great Head of the Church, in his holy providence, removed him from his labours, on the 7th day of April last, while attempting to cross a small stream swollen by the rains.

Christ Church, Bethel,—Baptisms—Adult, 1, Children, 12—Total, 13. Communicants, 56.

JOEL CLAP, *Missionary*.

Christ Church, Guilford,—Baptism, 1.—Marriages, 2.—Deaths, 5. Communicants, 45. As many as seventy-five, according to the last year's report, have communed in this Church, but not more than the above number consider themselves Episcopalians. Families, 65. Sunday Scholars, 50.—This parish was destitute of clerical services during a great part of the past year.

SAMUEL BRENTON SHAW, *Minister*.

St. Matthew's Church, Sandgate,—Funerals, 2. Communicants, 22. Families, 30. The prospects in this Church are somewhat encouraging; there is a Sunday School established here which is quite promising; in which are taught every Sabbath from 30 to 40 scholars.

ATTEST,

COTESWORTH P. BRONSON,
Lay Reader.

The following gentlemen were elected the Standing Committee, for the ensuing year,—Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. George Leonard, Rev. Benj. B. Smith, and Rev. Joel Clap.

The following gentlemen were appointed the Prudential Committee,—Hon. Daniel Chipman, Hon. Jonathan H. Hubbard, Dorastus Wooster, Joshua Isham, and George Cleaveland, Esqs.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Smith, Resolved, That in case there should be a special meeting of the General Convention within the ensuing year, the Delegates appointed by this Convention, at their last annual meeting, be authorized to represent this Convention in that body.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Chase, Resolved, That the Agents and Attorneys of the "Incorporated Society established at London for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," be requested to lay before this Convention such information as they possess in relation to the Lands which they have in charge for said Society, and what the Church in this State may reasonably expect from the avails of said Lands.

The following extract from the Journals of the General Convention, received from the Secretary of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, was laid before the Convention :—

"Resolved, That in order that the contingent expenses of the General Convention may be defrayed, that it be recommended to the several Diocesan and State Conventions to forward to the Secretary of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies at each meeting of said Convention, the sum of seventy-five cents for each Clergyman within said Diocese or State."

Whereupon, on motion of the Rev. Mr. Smith, Resolved, That this Convention highly approve of the method proposed by the Secretary of the General Convention with regard to the mode of defraying the incidental expenses of that body; and that it holds itself in readiness to comply with said resolution.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Chipman, Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to deliver over to the Clerk of the Agents of "The Incorporated Society established at London for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," all the papers and documents in his possession relating to the Lands in this State belonging to said Society.

The Rev. Mr. Chase proposed the following amendments to the Constitution :

After the word "Convention," in the second line of the 4th Article, in the printed copy, to strike out the words "and when" "there is to be a session of the General Convention within the "ensuing year," and insert the word "also:" After the words "delegation shall," in the 4th line, to insert the word "annually." Also, in the 5th line, after the words "this State in" to strike out the words "that body; also as long as this State shall be." "long to the Eastern Diocese, a delegation shall be appointed to "attend each Diocesan Convention at the next preceding annual "Convention, or at some meeting specially warned for that "purpose," and insert the words "the General Convention."— Also, in the 11th line of said Article, to strike out the words. "or Diocesan."

Adjourned, until 8 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, JUNE 25TH, 8 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

Hannibal Hodges, Lay Delegate from Trinity Church, Rutland, presented his credentials and took his seat.

The Hon. Daniel Chipman, in behalf of the Agents and Attorneys of the "Incorporated Society established at London for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," made a verbal report, in answer to the request contained in a resolution adopted by this Convention yesterday. Whereupon, Resolved, That the said Agents be requested to reduce said Report to writing, and the Secretary is directed to publish the same with the Journals, together with such remarks on the same, as may be useful to the members of the Church in this State; and that the Rev. Benj. B. Smith, George Cleaveland, and Dorastus Wooster, Esqs. be, and are hereby appointed a Committee to carry the object of this resolution into effect.

On motion, adjourned for the purpose of attending divine service.

Morning Prayers were read by the Rev. Joel Clap, and a Sermon preached by the Rev. Benj. B. Smith: After which the Convention met according to adjournment.

On motion, by the Rev. Mr. Smith, Resolved, That the next annual meeting of this Convention be held in Christ Church, Bethel.

The Rev. Benjamin B. Smith appointed to preach at the opening of the next Convention, and the Rev. Samuel B. Shaw, his substitute.

The Rev. Mr. Chase, in behalf of the Committee appointed to revise the Canons, presented a report which was accepted; and after the adoption of sundry amendments to the 2d Canon as reported, the following Canons were adopted by the Convention:—

CANON I.

OF THE MODE OF TRYING CLERGYMEN ACCUSED OF MIS- DEMEANOR.

Whenever the Standing Committee shall have reason to suspect any Clergyman of this Church to be guilty of infidelity, heresy, vice, or irregularity of any kind, it shall be their duty to inquire into the circumstances of the case; and if, upon such inquiry they are convinced, that there exists sufficient cause of complaint, they shall represent the same to the Bishop, at the same time stating specifically whereof the party is accused; whereupon, by order of the Bishop, a council of Presbyters, consisting of not less than three, shall be convened, who under the direction of the Bishop, shall proceed in due time to try the party accused; a copy of the accusation or accusations, and twenty days notice of the time and place of trial being first communicated to such party. And furthermore, it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee at such trial, to lay before the Bishop and his Presbyters, such evidence as they may be able to obtain relative to the case under investigation.

CANON II.

OF THE FORMING AND ORGANIZING OF CHURCHES.

Whenever any number of persons in this State shall form themselves into a regular Society, of the Protestant Episcopal faith, in such a manner, as that they will become a body corporate according to law, and their proceedings shall be sanctioned

by the Bishop of the Diocese, and Standing Committee of this State—or in case of a vacancy in the Episcopal Office, by the State Convention or its Standing Committee, they shall be admitted to all the rights and privileges of a regular Church, subject at all times to the authority and discipline of said Bishop, or in case of a vacancy in the Episcopal Office, of said Convention or its Standing Committee.

Voted, That the money in the hands of the Secretary be appropriated towards defraying the expense of printing the Journals of the Convention.

The Rev. Benj. B. Smith and the Hon. Daniel Chipman were appointed a Committee to report to the next annual meeting of this Convention, a uniform mode of election of Lay Delegates from the several Parishes in this State, and a form of certificate of said election.

Adjourned without day.

ATTEST,

JOEL CLAP, *Secretary*.

REPORT OF THE AGENTS.

To the Convention of the Episcopal Church of the State of Vermont, now convened at Middlebury, the undersigned, Agents and Attorneys of the Incorporated Society established at London for the propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, for recovering the possession of their lands in the State of Vermont, and appropriating the avails thereof for the support of the Protestant Episcopal Church in said State, in compliance with the request contained in your resolution of the 24th inst. cheerfully give to the Convention the following information relating to said lands :—

By the Charters of most of the Townships in this State issued by the Governor of New-Hampshire, one Right in each Township was granted to the Incorporated Society established at London for the propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. Soon after the issuing of the Charters, and before the Towns were generally settled, the Revolution intervened, by which the Territory became independent of Great Britain. Soon after the

Treaty of Peace, to wit, on the 20th May, 1785, the Society, knowing they were vested with property in the late American Colonies, and that their title thereto was secured to them by the Treaty of '83, passed the following resolution. "*Resolved*, That the Secretary do write to some one or more members of the Church of England in each of the States of America, in which the Society has any property, to take all proper care in securing said property, and further to inform such persons, that it is the intention of the Society to make over all such property to the use of the Episcopal Church in that Country, in whatever manner or form, after communication with the several Governments, shall appear most effectual for that purpose." A copy of the foregoing resolution having been transmitted to the principal Episcopalians, in the United States, measures were immediately taken by the Church in the State of New-Hampshire, to procure the lands belonging to the Society in that State, consisting of a Right in most of the Towns, granted in the same form as were the Townships in this State. And they soon after procured from the Society a conveyance to Messrs. Adams and Sheaf, or rather procured a Power of Attorney to them, authorizing them to recover possession of the Lands in the name of the Society, and to appropriate the Rents and Profits to the support of the Church in that State. Suits were afterwards commenced by said Agents, to recover possession of the Lands in the State Courts, and in the Court of the United States, and recoveries had in both. It does not appear by the Journals of the Convention in this State, that any thing was done by the Church, towards procuring the Lands from the Society until the Month of September, 1794, when the Convention appointed a Committee to make application to the Society for the Lands, consisting of the Rev. Bethuel Chittenden, the Rev. Daniel Barber, the Rev. J. C. Ogden, Messrs. Eleazer Baldwin, Truman Squier, Matthew Lyon and Ebenezer Marvin. It appears that this Committee made application for the Lands to the Society through their Agent, Col. John A. Graham, but were unsuccessful.

It does not appear that any further step was taken by the Church, to obtain said Lands, until the meeting of the Convention at Arlington, in the year 1805, when the Convention directed their Standing Committee to take further steps to obtain the Society Lands in Vermont; and appointed on said Committee the Rev. Bethuel Chittenden, the Rev. Abraham Bronson, Daniel Chipman, Truman Squier, Martin Roberts and Anson J. Sperry, Esqs. This Committee also made application to the Society for their Lands in this State, but failed in their application as appears by a letter from the Secretary of the Socie-

ty to Bishop Moore, through whom the application was made bearing date Nov. 30, 1808. The reason why this application was unsuccessful, is perfectly obvious from the following extract from said letter. "There have been indeed a variety of applications from the State of Vermont, so different in their object and design, that the Society could not comply with any of them, desirous as they are to extend the cause of religion to the utmost of their power." No further steps were taken to obtain the Lands, until the year 1811, when the Rev. Abraham Bronson and Anson J. Sperry, Esq delegates from this State, to the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States, holden at New-Haven, in Connecticut, in the month of May, obtained a resolution of the Convention, directing Bishop White, the Presiding Bishop of the House of Bishops, to write to the Society in London, in behalf of the Convention, and inform them, that the Church in Vermont was regularly organized and under the care of the Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, and that a Board of Trustees of Donations to the Church had been incorporated in Massachusetts, and that it was the opinion of the Convention that their Lands in Vermont might safely be conveyed to such Agents and Attorneys as might be recommended by said Board of Trustees, and approved of by the Convention of Vermont. In pursuance of the above resolution, such letter was written by Bishop White, and on the recommendation of the leading Church people in Vermont, the said Trustees in Boston on the 5th day of June, 1815, recommended the present Agents, and this recommendation was approved of by the Convention of this State holden at Arlington on the 28th day of the same June. The Agents thus appointed, by order of the Convention, immediately transmitted all the papers and documents relating to the application to the Society for the Lands, to the Hon. and Rev. Charles Stewart, who then resided in the Province of Canada, and was about to visit London. This extraordinary man, was one of the Scottish Nobility, who had taken Orders in the Church, and whose piety and zeal in promoting her interest, had prompted him to cross the ocean, and to place himself in that part of the Province of Lower Canada which borders on this State, and there spend his time and his income in forming Churches, and in visiting the families in that new-settled country and giving them moral and religious instruction. The influence of such a man, the Agents were sure, would remove that jealousy and suspicion, which the Society had imbibed, in relation to the Church in Vermont. In this they were not disappointed. A power of Attorney was executed by the Society bearing date the 5th day of December, 1816, authorizing the Agents and Attorneys, "to sue for and recover possession

the said Lands, and for and in the name of said Society to lease them or any part of them, to such person or persons, and for such term or number of years, and at and under such yearly and other rent, as they, or a majority of them should think fit and proper, and also to sue for, recover and receive all rents, incomes and profits which then were or should become due and owing to said Society."

The power given to the Agents to appropriate the rents and profits is as follows, to wit. "There shall be appropriated such parts and shares of such incomes and profits as the Agents and Attorneys shall judge just and proper to the use and benefit of such person as may be elected and canonically consecrated to the office of Bishop over the said State of Vermont, and to the use and benefit of his successors in the office of Bishop in said State, and the remaining incomes and profits of said Lands to be appropriated to the use and support of a Clergyman and his successors of the Protestant Episcopal Church in each of said Townships, when a Church shall be formed therein, and the worship of God performed according to the Liturgy of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America. And in such Towns where no Church shall be established as aforesaid, the remaining income, rents and profits to the support of Clergymen, building of Churches, defraying the expense of suits for the recovery of said Lands, and the incomes and profits thereof, and for such other uses and purposes as the said Agents and Attorneys shall judge will best conduce to the welfare of the Church in said State of Vermont, and to do all other acts and things concerning the premises, as fully, in every respect, as the said Society can or could do. And one or more Attorneys under them for the purposes aforesaid, to make, and again at their pleasure revoke."

After the receipt of the foregoing power of Attorney, the Agents waited until well advised respecting the title of the Society, before they commenced any suit for the recovery of the Lands. When satisfied that the fee of the Land was in the Society, and that they must recover possession of them in a Court of Law, the Agents caused an Action of Ejectment to be commenced before the Circuit Court of the United States, against the Town of New-Haven, and William Wheeler, their tenant on a lot laid to the Society Right in that Town. The object of the Agents in commencing the suit against the Town of New-Haven, in preference to any other Town, was, that they were sure the suit would be defended to the utmost, and carried to the Supreme Court of the United States for a final decision, that all further

litigation might be prevented. In this they were not disappointed. The Town of New Haven employed counsel to defend the suit, and while pending in the Circuit Court, made application to the Legislature, who appointed an Agent to defend the suit and made a liberal appropriation of money to defray the expense. The counsel for the Society and the counsel employed by the State on the part of the defendants, united in taking such a course with the suit, that a final decision might be had therein by the Supreme Court of the United States, which should satisfy all parties in relation to the title of the Society to these Lands, and thus prevent further litigation. With this view it was agreed that a special verdict should be drawn up, embracing all the material facts; and it was further agreed, that, if, on the argument of the case, before the Supreme Court, it should appear that any material facts on either side had been omitted, they should be added to the special verdict. Mr. Hopkinson of Philadelphia, argued the cause for the Society, and Mr. Webster of Boston, for the defendants, and both were satisfied that the special verdict embraced all the material facts in the case. The cause was argued in the winter of 1822, and taken under consideration by the Court until the last term of the Supreme Court, when judgment was rendered for the plaintiffs by six Judges, one Judge dissenting.

The Agents are therefore confident that all further litigation would be useless, and that it will not be necessary to resort to any further actions of Ejectment.

On the 30th of April last, the Agents met at Middlebury, to take measures for leasing the lands, and although satisfied that they could recover all the prior rents which had been paid to the Towns, yet under all the circumstances it was unanimously agreed to lease them to the present tenants, without requiring the payment of the rents which had become payable before the decision of the Supreme Court was made known. That the buildings and betterments made on the lands by the tenant, should be considered as his, and the land be leased to him at a rent proportioned to the value of the land, without reference to the buildings and betterments made by him; but this on condition that the Tenant surrender his lease from the Town, so as to cut off all claim of his against the town.

Agents were also appointed in the different counties authorized to execute leases in the name of the Society, and it is confidently believed that leases will be taken of the lands, and no further sum expended in hopeless litigation.



In relation to the probable income of the lands, the Agents cannot at present give any satisfactory information. We believe that the annual income will amount to Four Thousand, and that it will not exceed Five Thousand Dollars.

ABRAHAM BRONSON,
DANIEL CHIPMAN,
ANSON J. SPERRY.

Middlebury, June 26th, 1823.

NOTE.—It is necessary to remark that the only remaining Agent, the Rt. Rev. John V. Griswold, was unable to attend the State Convention, and that his signature is, therefore necessarily wanting.

REMARKS OF THE COMMITTEE.

The resolution of the Convention, in which the Agents of the Society's Lands were called upon to furnish such statements, with regard to their proceedings, and the history and present state of those lands, as they should deem proper to appear upon the journals of the Convention, did also constitute a committee, "to make such remarks on the same as may be useful to the members of the Church in this State." In conformity with that resolution, your committee respectfully submits the following remarks:—

In addition to the facts contained in the body of this report in relation to the first grant, and succeeding history of these lands as drawn from papers in possession of the Agents, there exists a variety of others, which will sufficiently explain why such grants, and to so large an extent were made. Gov. Wentworth, under whose administration they took place, was himself an Episcopalian. But at that period the number who thought like him was very small. They were emphatically a minor sect.—Congregationalists made up a vast majority of the Colonists. Indeed that denomination was by the Colonial Government considered and treated as the established religion. In pursuing the reigning policy of the age to promote the settlement of the new plantations, the government foresaw that they would be chiefly settled by the prevailing denomination. Whatever encouragement, therefore, was necessary in those early periods for the introduction and support of religion, was less necessary for the

reigning sect, than for minor ones. Their numbers constituted an obvious and sufficient resource. But it was presumed that Episcopalians would not be easily induced to remove far back into the remote settlements, without some reasonable hope and strong encouragement that they would be able to maintain the ministry and services to which they were so strongly attached. What expectations were wanting from their numbers, needed to be supplied in some other way. Accordingly, whilst only one right of land was given to the first settled minister, who, it was foreseen would commonly be a Congregationalist, two rights were granted to Episcopalians, one, for a Glebe, and the other for the benefit of the Society for propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

The first right, in most cases, fell into the possession of the ruling denomination; and as it became, in fee, the property of the first settled minister, appears to have answered the very purpose which the grantors expected and designed.

And under the expectation that the other rights would finally enable them to support their own ministers and services, several Episcopalians were induced to remove to the new Townships. But owing to a variety of causes, their hopes have been deferred, baffled, and nearly destroyed. And the posterity of those persons who were induced to move into a region so remote from the field of Episcopal Ministrations are reduced to depend for the supply of them, upon their own exertions, and the small remnant of property which has at length been recovered. And it is presumed that no objections will be urged against their receiving possession of this property, since every other public right has been secured to its designated use and employment.

But if any such objections should be raised, it is difficult to see what they can effect. From the report of the Agents it will be seen, that every arrangement was made to have the decision which has been given, a final one. The cause was carried to the highest tribunal, was advocated by the most able counsel, and decided, after a full investigation, by a court, the very constitution of which, places its Judges far above all personal or State influence. And in this case it is in vain to look for any sectarian prejudices, for not only the same Court, but the same Judges decided the Glebe case against the Church, by which she is forever deprived of the use of those lands, which has now given judgment in favour of the Society for Propagating the Gospel.

It is presumed that no persons would be disposed to urge objections against the recovery of the Propagation Lots, if they could be made to believe that the benefits which will be derived from them in future, will be far greater than any which have been hitherto realized.

It is confidently expected that this position will appear clearly and abundantly supported by a comparison of the nature and extent of the former and future good effects resulting from the application of the avails of these lands.

No attempt will be made to undervalue or depreciate the benefits of education. Here the language of the most extravagant eulogy is scarcely the language of truth. The invaluable effects of a good education, and of the widest possible diffusion of it, are far beyond all human calculation. They are not to be made matter of cool mathematical calculation. They cannot be taken hold of, and counted and weighed. At the same time they are known by effects too mighty to be overlooked, and are felt with an energy and a blessedness which cannot be mistaken. Parents cannot see how education blesses their offspring, but they can feel that under its influence they are growing up to make glad their hearts. Children cannot feel the hand which is moulding their characters and their hearts, but they find themselves growing up bold in thought, proud in feeling, aspiring in hope, and vigorous in enterprise. The secret influence of general and good education is noiseless and unnoticed in its progress, but its results are too mighty and too glorious to pass unregarded. The community is blessed by it, through all its limits. And our homes are made the pure, contented and happy abodes which we find them, in a great measure by means of the education which has exalted their inmates.

But are these blessings to be compared with those which flow from the diffusion of Christian knowledge and piety? Separate the ingredients of a nation's knowledge, from the ingredients of a nation's morality, and what is their real estimation? They will prove the materials of ruin and desolation. Clear heads are dangerous pioneers to bad hearts. Religion alone can sanctify knowledge, and make her the handmaid of happiness. Politicians are mistaken when they refer our civil and social advantages chiefly to the diffusion of knowledge. It is much more fairly ascribed to the influence of religion. It is this which has prevented the curses which are inseparable from a state of intellectual culture, if moral culture does not keep pace with it. Intelligence elevates the character, but religion preserves it when thus elevated, pure, and refined, and pre-eminently happy.

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JOURNAL

OF THE

32633

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

CONVENTION

OF THE

Protestant Episcopal Church

IN THE

STATE OF VERMONT,

HELD IN CHRIST CHURCH, BETHEL,

On the 23d day of June, 1824.

MIDDLEBURY:

PRINTED BY J. W. COPELAND.

.....
1824.



PROCEEDINGS.

BETHEL, WEDNESDAY JUNE 23d, 1824.

THIS being the day designated by the Constitution for the annual meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, of the State of Vermont, the Right Rev. Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, a number of Clergymen and Lay Delegates from several of the Churches in this State, assembled at 9 o'clock A. M. in Christ Church, Bethel.

Present—Right Rev. ALEXANDER V. GRISWOLD, *President Ex Officio.*

Rev. ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Rector of Bethel and Bethesda Churches, Arlington, and Zion Church, Manchester.*

Rev. GEORGE LEONARD, *Rector of St. Paul's Church, Windsor.*

Rev. BENJ. B. SMITH, *Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.*

Rev. JOEL CLAP, *Rector of Trinity Church, Shelburn.*

Rev. ELIJAH BRAINARD, *Deacon Missionary.*

Rev. SAMUEL B. SHAW, *Deacon Minister of Christ Ch. Guilford.*

The following gentlemen presented their credentials, as Lay Delegates, and took their seats :

DANA HYDE, from *Christ Church, Guilford.*

DUDLEY CHASE,

THOMAS RUSSEL, & } *Christ Church, Bethel.*

SALMON C. COTTON,

GEORGE CLEVELAND & } *St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.*

DORASTUS WOOSTER,

JAMES HAWLEY, jr. *Trinity Church, Fairfield.*

JOHN RICHARDSON, *Union Church, St. Albans.*

LUKE DEWING, *Grace Church, Sheldon.*
 RUFUS SMITH, *Union Church, Montgomery.*
 *PHILO HOSFORD, ——— *Church, Paultney.*
 *DANIEL FITCH, *Trinity Church, Pawlet.*
 *RAYMOND HOTCHKISS, *St. Paul's Church, Wells.*

Rev. JOEL CLAP was appointed *Secretary*.

On motion by the Rev. Mr. Bronson—

Resolved, That visiting Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, who may be present during the session of this Convention, be admitted to honorary seats in the same.

The Rev. NATHAN B. BURGESS, from the Diocese of Connecticut, and the Rev. PALMER DYER, Deacon, from the Diocese of New-York accordingly appeared and took their seats.

The Parochial Reports being called for, the following were presented and read :—

BETHEL AND BETHESDA CHURCHES, ARLINGTON.

Baptism, 3.—Marriage, 5.—Funerals, 9.—Communicants, 80.

ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Rector*.

ZION CHURCH, MANCHESTER.

Baptism, 1.—Marriage, 1.—Funerals, 5.—Communicants, 35.

ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Rector*.

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ST. MATTHEWS CHURCH, SANDGATE.

Communicants, 31.

ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Visiting Minister*.

TRINITY CHURCH, PAWLET,

Was duly organized on the 9th of December, 1823.—The number of communicants is about 15. Within a fortnight after the Minister had the pleasure of assisting at the organization of this Church, he was called to mourn, with his brethren, over the grave

* These Churches were admitted into connection with this Convention at this time.

of the Senior Warden, one of its founders and chief supporters.

The Church lands in this town are valuable.—The town, however, is yet unwilling to surrender her claim; so that we do not at present derive any benefit from them. The avails of them are much wanted, and depended upon, by our few Churchmen, to enable them to support the administration of Christian and Apostolic ordinances.

PALMER DYER, Minister of Trinity Church, Pawlet.

On the 27th of April in the present year, I had the pleasure to assist in organizing **ST. PAUL'S CHURCH** in Wells, as will appear from the certificate this day presented by the Lay Delegate. Burial, 1.—Number of communicants about 20. It is believed there is no Church land in this town.

PALMER DYER, Minister of St. Paul's Church, Wells.

Parochial Report of CHRIST CHURCH, Guilford, for the year ending June 20th, 1824.

Baptisms, 2.—Marriages, 2.—Funerals, 5.—Communicants, 46.—Families which regularly attend Church, about 70.—Births, 7.—Sunday scholars, in both Churches, 52.

This Parish has suffered during the past year from removals, and feels severely the pressure of the times.—Its trust is still, however, in the Great Head of the Church, and continuing firm "in the unity of the faith and in the bonds of peace," its prospects are by no means discouraging. The Congregation at the West Church has materially increased during the past year, while none have withdrawn from the East, except those who have removed to other places. Arrangements have been made to procure a parsonage house during the present season.

S. BRENTON SHAW, Minister.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, WINDSOR.

From June, 1822, to June, 1823—7 Baptisms.—2 Burials, and 1 Marriage. From June, 1823, to June, 1824—3 Baptisms.—1 Burial.—2 Marriages, and two persons confirmed.

GEORGE LEONARD, Rector.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, WEATHERSFIELD.

1 Baptism.

GEORGE LEONARD, Rector.

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, MIDDLEBURY.

During the past year the external circumstances of this Parish have not essentially changed. It is hoped that a gradual and permanent improvement has taken place;—precisely such as might have been expected in the ordinary course of Providence, though by no means as conspicuous and striking as has been earnestly implored as a special favour from God. Baptisms since the last Report, but 4; and Funerals only 2.—The number of Communicants, by means of the addition of two new members, the return of several to the village, and the accession of others who had been elsewhere communicants, has increased nearly to 40. The Sunday School and Bible Classes excite interest and promise to be useful. One favorable indication ought thankfully to be noticed.—It does not indeed relate, as devoutly could be wished, to the most important of all subjects, still it is gratifying to perceive an increased disposition to examine the claims, and prize the excellencies of the Episcopal Church.

The demand for tracts, and for more elaborate works, in relation to its distinctive principles is very great, and has evidently increased; and in the most unexpected quarters, an attachment to its Liturgy has been discovered. We have good reason therefore to hope, that God is beginning at least, to give us favour in the sight of the people, and we trust it will prove to have been in richest love to their souls.

BENJAMIN B. SMITH, *Rector.*

Middlebury, June 22d, 1824.

TRINITY CHURCH, SHELburn.

Baptisms, adults, 5—infants, 7—total 12.—Marriages, 3.—Funerals, 2.—Communicants, 71.

The state of this Parish presents no peculiarly interesting feature. The Congregation has been gradually increasing, and it is hoped that God has, in some measure, blessed the means of grace, to the advancement of pure and undefiled religion among the people.

JOEL CLAP, *Rector.*

CALVARY CHURCH, BERKSHIRE.

Baptisms, adults, 2—infants, 10—total, 12.—Funerals, 1.—Communicants, 32.

JOEL CLAP, *Missionary.*

UNION CHURCH, MONTGOMERY.

Baptisms, infants, 2.—Communicants, 29.

JOEL CLAP, *Missionary.*

— CHURCH, ENOSBURGH, 10.

These Churches have been destitute of the regular and stated services of a Clergyman since the much lamented death of the Rev. Mr. GRAY. Divine service has been regularly conducted by Lay readers, in the two former, during the whole period, except when occasionally supplied by a Clergyman, and recently in the latter, and we have reason to believe that the Lord has in some degree blessed the same.

JOEL CLAP, *Missionary.*

CHRIST CHURCH, BETHEL.

Baptisms, adult, 1—infants, 8—total, 9.—Communicants, 68.

With a very commendable zeal, the members of this Parish have, at the expense of very great exertion, completed the church edifice in which we are now assembled; in which the services of the Church are regularly performed, by a Lay Reader, whose labour of love has been richly repaid by the constant, though gradual increase of the Congregation, and, as we fondly hope, the spiritual condition of the Parish is improving.

The Rev. Mr. BRAINARD has occasionally officiated in this Church during the past season.

The Rev. Mr. BURGESS, from the Diocese of Connecticut, has kindly officiated two Sundays, and assisted on the third.

The situation of these vacant Parishes presents a very powerful appeal to the missionary spirit of the friends of our Church in this State.

JOEL CLAP, *Missionary.*

UNION CHURCH, ST. ALBANS.

Funeral, 1 child.—Communicants, 13.

JOHN RICHARDSON, *Warden.*

TRINITY CHURCH, FAIRFIELD.

Communicants, 62.—Additions within the past year, 2—one by removal.

JAMES HAWLEY, *Lay Reader.*

GRACE CHURCH, SHELDON.

The state of this Church is about the same as last year.

JOHN S. GALLUP, *Society Clerk.*

The following Committees were then appointed:

STANDING COMMITTEE.

Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. George Leonard, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Benjamin B. Smith, Rev. Joel Clap.

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

Hon. Daniel Chipman, Hon. Jonathan H. Hubbard, Dorastus Wooster and Joshua Isham, Esq's.

On motion, the following amendment to the Constitution, proposed at the last annual meeting of the Convention, was adopted:

After the word "Convention," in the second line of the fourth Article in the printed copy, to strike out the words "and when there is to be a session of the General Convention within the ensuing year," and insert the word "also." After the words "delegation shall," in the fourth line, to insert the word "annually." Also in the fifth line, after the words "this State in" to strike out the words "that body, also as long as this State shall belong to the Eastern Diocese, a delegation shall be appointed to attend each Diocesan Convention at the next preceding annual Convention, or at some meeting specially warned for that purpose," and insert the words "the General Convention." Also, in the 11th line of said Article, to strike out the words "or Diocesan."

The following Report was received, read and accepted:

The Committee appointed at the last Convention "to report a uniform mode of election of Lay Delegates from the several Parishes in this State to its annual Convention, and also a form of certificate of said election," beg leave to report, That the Lay Delegates shall in all cases either reside in the Parish which they represent, or contribute to its funds, and be chosen at some regular meeting of the Parish or Society, or at least at some meeting of the Wardens and Vestry, of which previous public notice shall have been given; and that the form of certificate shall run in the following words, or others of similar import:

"This is to certify, That A. B.—C. D. &c. have been duly appointed Lay Delegates to represent ——— Church (Parish or Society) of ——— in the next State Convention to be holden in ——— on the ——— day of ———." Which certificate shall be signed either by the Clerk of the Parish, Society, or Vestry, for the time

being—the Rector of the Parish—or by one or more of the Wardens.
All which is respectfully submitted.

BENJAMIN B. SMITH, }
DANIEL CHIPMAN, } *Committee.*

The Convention adjourned for the purpose of attending Divine Service.

CHRIST CHURCH was then consecrated by the Right Reverend Bishop. Morning prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Bronson. The sermon was preached by the Right Rev. Bishop, who proceeded to the administration of the Holy Communion, in which he was assisted by the Rev Mr. Leonard.—After which the business of the Convention was resumed.

Adjourned until 4 o'clock this evening.

WEDNESDAY, 4 o'clock P. M.

The Convention assembled for the purpose of attending Divine Service. Evening prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Shaw, and a sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Smith, after which the Convention proceeded to business.

On motion by the Rev. Mr. Bronson,

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of this Convention be holden at St. Albans.

The following Delegates to the General Convention were then appointed:

REV. ABRAHAM BRONSON,	} <i>Clerical.</i>
REV. BENJ. B. SMITH,	
REV. JOEL CLAP,	
REV. SAM'L B. SHAW,	
DANIEL CHIPMAN,	} <i>Laymen.</i>
DUDLEY CHASE,	
JONATHAN H. HUBBARD,	
DANA HYDE,	

On motion by the Rev. Mr. Smith,

Resolved, That the Agents and Attorneys of the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," for the management of the Society lands in this State, be, and they hereby are requested to report to the next Convention, a full and minute account of the condition of the business and funds at their disposal.

On motion by the Rev. Mr. Smith,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to report to the next Convention the expediency of establishing a Contingent Fund to be at the disposal of this Convention, and the best mode of raising and proportioning said Fund.

The following gentlemen were appointed upon said Committee :

Rev. Benjamin B. Smith, George Cleveland, and Rev. Joel Clap.

The Rev. Samuel B. Shaw was appointed to preach before the next Convention, and the Rev. Abraham Bronson his substitute.

On motion, *Voted*, That the Secretary be directed to publish the Journal of the proceedings of this Convention.

Adjourned without day.

A true Record, Attest, JOEL CLAP, *Secretary*.

The 4th Article of the Constitution as amended by the Convention on the 23d day of June, A. D. 1824.

A President, Secretary, and Standing Committee shall be chosen at every annual meeting of the Convention ; also the requisite Delegation shall be annually appointed to represent this State in the General Convention.

Provided, however, That no person shall be a member of the Standing Committee, or shall represent this State in the General Convention, unless he be a regular Communicant in the Church. *Provided also*, That when the Bishop of the Diocese shall be present in Convention, he shall, *ex officio*, be President.

The Convention may from time to time, if deemed expedient, appoint a Prudential Committee to superintend the prudential concerns of the Church.

Meeting of the Missionary Society.

THE morning after the meeting of the Convention, a few members of the Missionary Society met in Christ Church, Bethel, for the purpose of electing Officers, and transacting the annual business of the Society.

With very mortifying and bitter feelings it was observed that very few of the influential Laymen then assembled manifested sufficient interest in the Society even to attend its hasty meeting. The business was transacted by so small a number that they did not presume to make the least change in any of its officers or arrangements. But the managers, affected to the heart at the total insensibility to this great and most desirable object, have emboldened themselves to take this method of announcing the low state of this Association, and have presumed so far as to occupy a blank page upon the Journals, with this hasty appeal to the friends of the Church, in the hope of exciting some increased degree of attention to this neglected subject. And upon the pressure of the occasion, they have resolved to adopt the following measures for carrying their purposes into effect :

1. They purpose to make provision, that for the future a sermon shall be preached before the Society at its annual meeting, the day after that appointed for the meeting of the Convention, and for taking up a contribution at that time for its funds.

2. They hereby appeal to their brethren in the Ministry, with the earnest request that they will take into consideration the vote of the Constitution of 1822, by which they were desired to take up contributions in their several Parishes for Missionary purposes, after preaching upon the subject; and beg leave further to suggest the expediency of having these collections at the communion sea-

sons of Christmas and Whitsunday. And they are exceedingly desirous that every Communicant in the Church will feel called upon, either to save or earn a specific sum, to be consecrated more especially to this holy purpose.

3. And they hereby further intimate to the Agents of the Society in the several Parishes that they are preparing a Circular to be addressed to them, in the confident hope that they will be prevailed upon to procure a much larger number of subscribers, than has yet, from any Parish, been reported.

The Managers are impressed with the vast importance and increasing interest of the Society whose concerns they superintend, as it regards the influence which it is capable of exerting in the immediate state of our infant Church. And they would be wanting in their duty to this Society and the Church at large, if they did not earnestly call upon Episcopalians, now if ever, to exert themselves in its behalf. By prompt and vigorous exertion—by frequent and liberal contributions, the Managers will be empowered to supply the wants of many of our people, whom it would be exceedingly unfeeling and wrong to neglect. They therefore submit the case to the friends of the Church, with humble prayers that their hearts and hands may be opened on this pressing and important occasion.

Middlebury, June 29th, 1824.

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JOURNAL

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

IN THE

STATE OF VERMONT,

HELD AT ST. ALBANS,

ON THE 22d DAY OF JUNE,

1825.

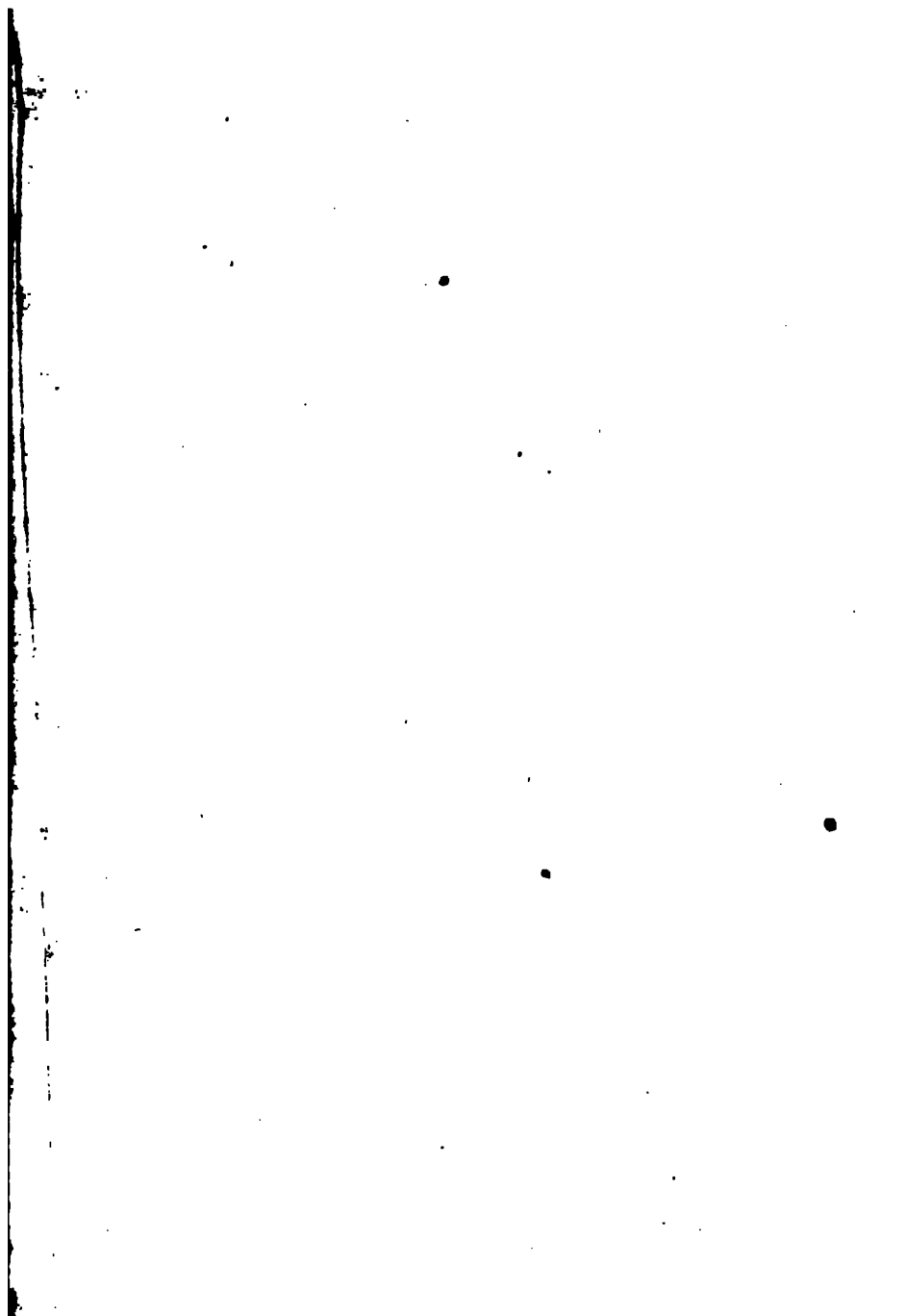
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BURLINGTON,

PRINTED BY E. & T. MILLS.

1825.



Journal.

WEDNESDAY, June 22d, 1825.

This being the day designated, by the Constitution, for the annual meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Vermont, a number of the Clergy and Lay Delegates, from several of the Parishes in the State, assembled at St. Albans, at 9 o'clock A. M.

PRESENT.

Rev. ABRAHAM BRONSON, Rector of Bethel and Bethesda Churches, Arlington, and Zion Church, Manchester.

Rev. CARLTON CHASE, Rector of Immanuel Church Bellows Falls.

Rev. JOEL CLAP, Rector of Trinity Church, Shelburn.

Rev. JOSEPH S. COVELL, Deacon Minister of Union Church, St. Albans.

Rev. BENJ. B. SMITH, Rector of St. Stephens Church, Middlebury.

The following gentlemen presented their credentials and took their seats, as Lay Delegates.

Thos. P. Russell, }
Oliver Gleason, } *From Christ Church, Bethel.*

Abijah Williams, ——— *Church, Poultney.*

Geo. Cleveland, *St. Stephens Church, Middlebury.*

Joshua Isham, }
Asa Lyon, 2d. } *Trinity Church, Shelburn.*
Truman Palmer, }

John Richardson, }
Samuel A. Wilkins, } *Union Church, St. Albans.*

Nathan Labdell, }
 Abijah Hawley, } *Trinity Church, Fairfield.*
 John Hendric, }
 Ezra Sturges, }

Daniel Smith, }
 Luke Duviry, } *Grace Church, Sheldon.*

Amherst Willoughby, *Calvary Church, Berkshire.*

William Barber, ——— *Church, Enosburgh.*

Roswell Catlin, }
 Rufus Smith, } *Union Church, Montgomery.*

The Rev. ABRAHAM BRONSON was chosen President, and Rev. JOEL CLAP Secretary.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Smith,

Resolved, That Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and candidates for Holy Orders in the same, attending upon this Convention, who are not members thereof, be admitted to honorary seats therein. The Rev. John J. Robertson, Professor of Languages in the University of Vermont, and Mr. John Bristed, a candidate for Holy Orders in this Diocese, appeared and took their seats.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That a Committee, consisting of three persons, be appointed, to confer with the Trustees, of the Church lands in this State, or such of them as may be present, and make such report, to this Convention, as they shall deem expedient. Whereupon the following gentlemen were appointed a Committee:

William Barber, Amherst Willoughby and Samuel A. Wilkins.

On motion by Mr. S. A. Wilkins,

Resolved, That two Clergymen be added to the

Committee last appointed. Upon which resolution the Rev. Carlton Chase and Rev. Benj. B. Smith, were appointed members of said Committee.

Ajourned for the purpose of attending Divine Service.

Morning Prayers were read, by Rev. Mr. Clap, and a **Sermon** delivered by the Rev. Mr. Bronson, by whom the Holy Communion was administered, after which the Convention was adjourned until half past 3 o'clock this evening.

WEDNESDAY, half past 3 o'clock P. M.

The convention met according to adjournment.

On motion by the Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That in the case of parishes, destitute of officiating Clergymen, the wardens be requested to report, annually to this Convention, the number of Baptisms, Marriages, and Funerals, which may have taken place in the same ; also the number of Communicants,—and to state any other matters, which may tend to throw light on the state and prospects of the same.

The following Parochial Reports were presented and read :

Bethel and Bethesda Churches, Arlington. Baptisms, Adults 2; Children 5—Total 7. Marriages, 5. Funerals, 7. Communicants, 85.

In this Parish, besides a regular Lecture on Sunday evening, the Rector has, for the winter past, steadily employed four evenings in each week in explaining the Scriptures to the youth, and such others as chose to attend, and has become so convinced of the

usefulness of the exercise, that he intends to resume it again, when the evenings shall be of sufficient length.

ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Rector*.

Zion Church, Manchester. Baptisms, Adults 2. Marriage, 1. Funerals, 3. Communicants, 35.

In this Parish are a few Sunday Scholars, and during the past winter, evening Lectures have been held, about once a week, for explaining the Scriptures. In order to induce a more full attendance at these Lectures, as well as to diffuse useful information, a large stock of religious tracts was procured, which were distributed among the youth, to be returned at the next appointment, and distributed again. Some measure of this kind, it is apprehended, might be useful in each of our Churches.

ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Rector*.

St. Mathew's Church, Sandgate. Communicants, 31.

In this town there is a large field for usefulness, as a considerable portion of the people are friendly to the Church, and there is no resident Preacher, of any kind.

ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Visiting Minister*.

Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.

Since the last report, two years ago, there have been baptized, Adults, 2, Children 14—Total 16. Marriages 2. Deaths, 4. Communicants, 30. Whole number of families within the parish limits, 40.

CARLTON CHASE, *Rector*.

Christ Church, Guilford. Baptisms, Adults, 2, Children, 24—Total, 26. Marriages, 4. Burials,

Adults, 8, Children, 7—Total 15. Births 19. Communicants, (added 7, died 2, removed 2,) 49. Families that attend Church about 90. Sunday Scholars, in E. Parish 50 ; W. 25. Total 75.

The condition of the Church in this town, has experienced no essential change since the last report, if we may except a more general attendance of the people upon the Sabbath. Planted in the midst of the most inveterate opposition, she has had to contend with numerous and powerful obstacles, but, amidst all her difficulties, has gradually increased in numbers and importance. And, while very perceptible additions have been yearly made to those who worship at her altar, we trust that she has also “grown in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.”

S. BRENTON SHAW, *Rector.*

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.

The resources and prospects of this Parish, have been blighted, in an uncommon degree, by the removal of several valuable and excellent families to a distance, and by the death of the late Daniel Henshaw, Esq. one of its confirmed and zealous friends and supports. The depression of these deplored and afflictive visitations, is alleviated, not by the positive accession of numbers and resources, but merely, though to a very cheering extent, by the visible increase of the congregation, and the evident exhibition of candour and kind feeling towards the Church. Could we only have the happiness of possessing a large and commodious edifice for public worship, it can scarcely be

questioned that the Parish would greatly increase. And the erection of such an house, is an object nearly as interesting to the church generally, as to the Parish in particular. The visible increase of parochial calls and duties, will be manifest by comparing with former reports, the following details of the annual reports, from the Parish Register.

Baptisms, 9, of which one was an Adult. Funerals, 8. Marriages 4. Communicants, 3 added, removed and deceased 6—Total 35. 30 Families Sunday Scholars, 35. All which is submitted by

B. B. SMITH, *Rector*.

Trinity Church, Shelburn.

Nothing of peculiar interest, has transpired, during the past year, in relation to this Parish. The number of Communicants has gradually increased, and although we have much reason to take the lamentation of the prophet, "who hath believed our report," still, in humble dependence upon the blessing of God upon the appointed means of grace, we look forward in earnest expectation for the increasing prosperity of this portion of his Church. Baptisms, Adults, 9, Infant, 1. Marriages 4. Funerals, 4. Communicants, 83.

JOEL CLAP, *Rector*.

Calvary Church, Berkshire. Baptisms, Infants, 4. Marriage, 1. Communicants, 31.

Union Church, Montgomery. Baptisms, Adult, 1, Infants, 2. Marriages 3. Communicants, 32. — Church, Enosburgh. Communicants, 10.

Christ Church, Bethel. Baptisms, Adult, 1, Infants, 9. Communicants, 68.

In each of these Parishes, (excepting Enosburgh,) the undersigned has officiated, during the past year, one Sunday in each two months; that under such circumstances, they should have experienced any material increase could not have been reasonably expected; still we have much reason to bless God, that amid all the discouragement, resulting from a protracted painful deprivation of the regular ministrations of the word and sacraments of the Gospel, he has been graciously pleased to preserve them from declension.

With undiminished anxiety they are looking, as we trust, both to the Ecclesiastical authority in this Diocese, and to the Great Head of the Church for a provision for their spiritual hunger and thirst for the ordinances and the graces of the Gospel.

A very cheering evidence of increasing zeal in the service of God is exhibited in the recent organization, of a Female Auxiliary Missionary Society in the Parish of Christ Church, Bethel, which has already contributed, liberally, to the funds of the Parent Society.

JOEL CLAP, *Missionary*.

Union Church, St. Albans. Baptisms, 1 Infant and 1 Adult. Funerals, 2. Added, 2. Communicants, 17. Families, 12.

JOSEPH S. COVELL, *Minister*.

Grace Church, Sheldon. Baptisms, Infants 2. Funerals, 2. Removals, 4. Communicants 42. Families 27.

JOSEPH S. COVELL, *Minister*.

Christ Church, Swanton. Communicants, 5. Families, 8.

JOSEPH S. COVELL, *Minister*.

Trinity Church, Fairfield. Communicants, 69.
Deaths, 2.

Mr. William Barber, in behalf of the Committee, which was appointed this morning, to confer with "the Trustees of the Church lands in this State," submitted the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Prudential Committee annually appointed by this Convention, be directed, and they are hereby directed, to enquire into and report, at the next succeeding annual Convention, the state of the pecuniary affairs of the Church in this State. And that said Committee be and are hereby directed, to confer with the general agents of the Society for the propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts, in relation to the funds or monies, for the benefit of the Church, arising from the rents of lands in this State belonging to said society, and that the said agents be and are hereby requested to permit the said Committee to have, at all reasonable times, access to their Secretary's and Treasurer's books—to obtain such information as may be thought useful to them in making a report of the general state of the affairs of said Church.

The Rev. Mr. Smith in behalf of the Committee appointed by the last Convention, to report to this Convention, "the expediency of establishing a Contingent Fund to be at the disposal of this Convention, and the best mode of raising and proportioning said Fund," presented the following report :—The Committee beg leave to report, that they have carefully considered the importance and expediency of providing a contingent fund, for defraying the expense of

delegates to the different Conventions, and also the best way of apportioning and raising the said fund. The narrowness of our pecuniary means, and the number of Conventions, attendance upon which is to be provided for, suggested at the outset, a very formidable difficulty. They presumed however, that this Convention would not, at present, attempt to provide for the expenses, either of the State, or Diocesan Convention, but will feel reluctantly constrained to leave the former to be borne, as heretofore, by the respective delegates in attendance, and the latter, by the Parishes whose Clergy or Lay Delegates may consider it expedient or necessary to attend. Your Committee in their report, have respect therefore simply to a provision for defraying the expenses of delegates to General Convention.

As to the propriety and importance of such an arrangement, it is scarcely credible that difference of opinion can exist. The vast importance of the acts of General Convention—the operation which they have upon the remotest States in the Union, and the differences in local feeling and circumstances, render it perfectly indispensable that every portion of the Church should be duly represented. Yet of the delegation from this State, it is well known that an exceeding small proportion has hitherto had, or is likely hereafter to have, the means of bearing for themselves the expenses of attendance. Upon the Clergy it is a tax, exceedingly disproportioned to their salaries, and upon the laity, a contribution justly considered too oppressive. If it is any way important, therefore, that

this portion of the Church should be constitutionally represented, it becomes necessary, and is indeed the dictate of common justice, to provide for defraying the expenses of the delegates. Other States have acted under the influence of these sentiments of justice and propriety, and have generously provided in such wise for the attendance of their delegates, that it is never deficient on pecuniary accounts.

The *expediency* of adopting immediate measures for effecting this reasonable and important object, has appeared to your committee, a far more difficult point to decide. The general interests of the Church, and all our external relations, point out its high expediency. But reasons within ourselves are by no means as convincing. As yet we are scarcely able to provide for the unavoidable expenses of our local transactions. Whilst, therefore, the general councils of the Church are as well attended, and their deliberations as wisely conducted, as at present, why should we be anxious to incur expense for the sake of bearing an unnecessary and responsible part in them? When the attendance of our delegation becomes indispensable, it may be said, it will be time enough to levy contributions upon our infant Parishes, to defray their expenses.

Yet it has appeared to your Committee so important that our representation should be somewhat proportionate, and so very desirable to organize all our internal arrangements against the occurrence of possible and great exigences, that they beg leave to report favourably upon the expediency of commencing immediately a contingent Fund.

The ways and means of apportioning and raising the fund present, after all, the most formidable difficulties. Shall it be raised by equal assessments upon the Parishes? This will bear with undue severity upon the smaller and poorer Parishes. Shall we endeavor to apportion it according to numbers or pecuniary ability? Who shall become assessors, and will not divisions and dissatisfactions be promoted? Shall it be left to the discretion of the Parishes? But would there not then be reason to fear a deficiency? Shall the assessment be enforced by penalties? What have we that we can inflict, which will not do greater injury to the Church than the fund will benefit it? All these difficulties, and many more, have occurred to your Committee. No course can avoid them all. In the resolutions which they have drawn up and with which this report will be closed, they have made what has appeared to them the most cautious and judicious selection of means, and after being weighed and discussed by the Convention, it will be competent in that body to determine whether these, or others in their stead, shall be employed. Some we trust it will not fail to consider indispensable.

The above report having been accepted, and the resolutions with which it was concluded having undergone several amendments were adopted as follows:

Resolved, That immediate measures be set on foot for raising a Contingent Fund, primarily for the purpose of defraying the expenses of Delegates to General Convention.

Resolved, That it be considered the duty of the Clergy, or Wardens of the respective Parishes, on

On motion, voted that the Secretary be directed to publish the Journal of the proceedings of this Convention, and to defray the expense of the same from the Funds of the Convention.

Adjourned without day.

A true record, Attest,

JOEL CLAP, *Secretary.*

JOURNAL

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THE CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

In the State of Vermont,

HELD AT MIDDLEBURY,

June 28, 1826.

WOODSTOCK:

PRINTED BY DAVID WATSON.

1826.

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AMERICAN
THEOLOGICAL

DUDLEY CHASE,
 THOMAS P. RUSSELL, } *From Christ Church, Bethel.*
 OLIVER GLEASON,

* ROYAL BLAKE, " *St. James' Church, Woodstock.*

* JONATHAN C. THERALL, " *St. John's Church, Rutland.*

DANIEL FITCH, " *Trinity Church, Pawlet.*

JOHN FRAZER, " ——— *Church, Enosburgh.*

Rev. Joel Clap was chosen Secretary.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and candidates for Holy Orders in the same, attending on this Convention, who are not members thereof, be admitted to honorary seats therein.

Whereupon, Rev. George Leonard, Rev. Palmer Dyer, and Mr. Jones, a candidate for Holy Orders, appeared and took their seats.

On motion by Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed, whose duty it shall be to nominate the Standing and Prudential Committees and a Delegation to the General Convention, and report to the Convention this evening.

Adjourned for the purpose of attending divine service.

Morning Prayer was conducted by Rev. Joel Clap, and a sermon preached by Rev. S. Brenton Shaw; after which, the Holy Communion was administered by Right Rev. Bishop Griswold.

The Convention resumed business according to adjournment.

Rev. Carlton Chase, in behalf of Rev. Palmer Dyer, presented to the Convention three printed Journals of the Proceedings of the Convention of the diocese of New-York.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Smith,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be and they hereby are returned to Rev. Palmer Dyer for the aforesaid donation.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock, this evening.

* These Parishes were received into connection with the Convention at this time.

Wednesday, June 28th, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

The following Parochial Reports were then presented and read :

Bethel and Bethesda Churches, Arlington.—Communicants 84, including 13 additional members. Baptisms 13, of which 5 were Adults. Funerals 7.

J. H. COIT, *Minister*.

Zion Church, Manchester.—Baptism 1. Funerals 3. Communicants 39.

The prospects of this Parish are more encouraging than they have been for several years past. The Rector has lately removed his residence into it, and is now bestowing upon it his whole services. There is an increasing attendance upon public worship, and favourable indications as to the progress of real piety. There has been an addition of five to the list of Communicants; and some others are expected to join soon. The Bible Class and Sunday School are small, but are uniformly attended to in the intermission on Sundays.

ABRAHAM BROWNSON, *Rector*.

St. Matthew's Church, Sandgate.—Communicants about 30.

A. BROWNSON, *Visiting Minister*.

Trinity Church, Pawlet.—Marriage 1. Communicants, (added 12) 27.

The members of this Society are firm and devoted Churchmen. The cause of Christ, and the concerns of our Apostolic Church, are prosperous.

PALMER DYER, *Minister*.

St. John's Church, Centreville, Rutland.—Baptisms, Infants 6—Adults 4. Communicants 12.

The prospects of this Parish are somewhat disheartening, owing to its recent formation, and the comparatively small number of those who are firmly attached to its interests, and anxious for its prosperity. The Communion has been twice administered during the past year, and services kept up between this and the East Parish alternately since February last.

LOUIS McDONALD, *Minister*.

Christ Church, Guilford.—With the exception of sundry changes occasioned by deaths, removals, and accessions, the two congregations which compose this Parish have experienced no sensible alteration since the last meeting of the Convention. It is worthy of note, however, that although 125 persons, belonging to the Parish, have either removed or deceased within four years past, no perceptible diminution has taken place in our worshipping assemblies; and the inference is obvious, that the prejudices which threatened the extinction of this infant Church, are giving way, and that there exists among the people a growing attachment to our "form

of sound words," and to the "faith once delivered to the saints." The Records present the following memoranda for the past year:

Baptisms, Adult 1, Children 4—Total 5. Funerals 9. Marriages 15. Births 16. Communicants (added 7, removed and deceased 4) 52. Families attending Church between 80 and 90. Sunday Scholars in both Schools about 70.
S. BRENTON SHAW, *Rector*.

Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.—Baptisms 10, Adult 1. Marriage 1, Death 1. Communicants 35. Sunday Scholars 35.

The Rector considers the condition of this Parish highly prosperous. Important additions have been made to the Communion; the Church has been much improved, and the choir furnished with an Organ.

C. CHASE, *Rector*.

In *St. Paul's Church, Windsor*, there have been, since the last report was made, two years ago, 6 Baptisms, 4 Marriages, and 5 Burials. Communicants 35.
GEORGE LEONARD, *Rector*.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.—Immediately after the last Convention, efforts were made to ascertain the disposition and means of the people in reference to erecting a substantial church edifice. By the munificence of one individual, and the anticipated benevolence of distant friends, it was thought that a sum might be raised, in addition to the very limited means of the Parishioners themselves, sufficient for this purpose. An appeal to the liberality of Episcopalians, in several of our principal towns and cities, has accordingly been made, and about \$600 have already been raised. The sum is not yet equal to our necessities. For the stone edifice, which is now in a state of considerable progress, will be far beyond the means of the few Episcopal families in the village, though no ways larger or more expensively finished than the peculiar circumstances of the place necessarily require. It is hoped that the considerations urged in our distant application, will still procure for us a sum sufficient for the end proposed. Before the meeting of another Convention I trust the building will be so far completed as to allow its being used for the purposes of public worship.

During a small part of the year past, some of the congregation committed to my charge have manifested a measure of that serious interest in divine things, which I pray may ever abound amongst them; and the preaching of the word, for a while, was received with much solicitude. Seriousness, then first commenced, has since, in some few cases, ripened, I trust, into real piety.

To the Communion 14 have been added, which, counterbalanced by some removals and other fluctuations, will leave the whole number of Communicants about 46. Of 16 Baptisms, 4 were of Adults. There have

been but 6 Funerals, and only 1 Marriage. The number of Families accounting themselves settled Parishioners, is not known to have increased. And with regret I conclude by representing the Sunday School as in rather a declining condition. B. B. SMITH, *Rector*.

Union Church, St. Albans.—Baptisms, Adults 4, Children 3, Total 7. Funerals 2. Communicants 18. JOHN RICHARDSON, *Warden*.

Christ Church, Swanton.—Communicants 7.

SAMUEL HOFFMAN, *Warden*.

Grace Church, Sheldon.—Funeral 1. Communicants 42. Families 27.

This Church cannot be considered in a very increasing state: It has, however, less to fear from the zeal of its opposers, than from the coldness and indifference of its professed friends. A Sunday School has been commenced with about 25 Scholars, and promises the desired success of much usefulness to the children.

MOORE BINGHAM, *Minister*.

Trinity Church, Fairfield.—Baptisms, Adult 1, Infants 3. Funeral 1. Removal 1. Communicants 67.

The members of this Church are very strongly and laudably attached to its services and all its peculiarities; but the remembrance of former difficulties evidently continues to prevent its growth in numbers and in grace.

MOORE BINGHAM, *Minister*.

Union Church, Montgomery.—Baptisms, Infants, 6. Marriage 1. Communicants 35.

Cateary Church, Berkshire.—Baptisms, Adult 1, Infants 2. Marriages 2. Communicants 31.

—— *Church, Enosburgh.*—Baptism, Infant 1. Communicants 12.

Christ Church, Bethel.—Baptisms, Adult 1, Infants 9. Communicants 80.

The Female Missionary Society in this Parish continues to be a very efficient auxiliary to the parent Society, and the weekly meeting of many of the females of this Church for devotional exercises, has been blessed as the means of increasing the piety and devout affection of those who attend the same. A Mite Society and Sunday School have been recently established under very favourable auspices. And the prospects of this Parish are upon the whole much more encouraging than even our most sanguine expectations had anticipated.

JOEL CLAP, *Missionary*.

St. James' Church, Woodstock.—Divine service was performed in this Parish, for the first time, on Sunday, the 20th of November last. Since which time, our meetings for publick worship have been uniformly well

and attentively attended. Arrangements are now making for the erection of a neat Church edifice; and there are favorable indications, that the Lord is rendering the humble administration of the Gospel effectual in leading souls to the knowledge of the Saviour.

Baptisms, Adults 5, Infants 9. Communicants 14.

JOEL CLAP, *Minister*.

Trinity Church, Shelburn.—Baptisms, Adult 1, Infants 4. Marriages 2. Funerals 4. Communicants 83.

JOEL CLAP, *Rector*.

The following Committees and Delegation, nominated by the Committee appointed for that purpose, were appointed *Rev. B. B. Smith*
Standing Committee.—Rev. Messrs. Abraham Bronson, [^]Carlton Chase, Joel Clap, and S. Brenton Shaw.

Prudential Committee.—Rev. Benjamin B. Smith, Hon. Dudley Chase, and Hon. Horatio Seymour.

Delegates to the General Convention.—CLERGY, Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Benjamin B. Smith, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Joel Clap. LAYMEN, Dudley Chase, Alexander Fleming, George Cleaveland, Royal Blake.

Rev. Mr. Chase proposed the following amendment to the constitution:

In Article 2d, instead of the words, "The said Convention shall meet annually on the fourth Wednesday in June," insert, "The said Convention shall meet annually on the last Wednesday in May."

The Treasurer of the Contingent Fund made the following Report, which was accepted:

The Treasurer of the Contingent Fund in account with the Convention.

DR.

To contributions this day received from the following Parishes:	
Zion Church, Manchester	\$2.06
Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls	9.33
Christ Church, Bethel	8.00
St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury	5.10
Trinity Church, Shelburn	5.56
Trinity Church, Fairfield	3.62
Grace Church, Sheldon	3.40
To oblation taken at the Communion this day	8.76

\$45.83

The Treasurer of the Contingent Fund in account with the Convention.

C.R.

By balance due for printing the Journals of the last Convention	\$4.00
" Cash on hand	41.83
	<hr/>
	\$45.83

June 28, 1826.

JOEL CLAP, *Treasurer.**

Rev. Mr. Smith, in behalf of the Prudential Committee, presented the following Report, which was accepted :

The Prudential Committee, in obedience to the instructions of the Convention, and by permission of the Agents of the Society for Propagating the Gospel, have inspected the books and papers in the possession both of their Secretary and Treasurer, and as the result of their examination, beg leave to report—

That the records in the Secretary's office furnish a clear and connected history of the proceedings in recovery of the lands, and a plain view of the tenure and circumstances under which they are holden, and the uses to which they are consecrated. But from these papers they could make no selections which would contain any valuable information additional to what has already, on a previous occasion, been submitted to the Convention

The Treasurer's books and accounts are kept in a style of neatness and accuracy, and contain much valuable information, of which a condensed view will herewith be submitted. Returns have not yet been received from all the towns where lands were granted—in some of which the recovery is retarded by suits not yet decided; and in many of which, no titles or no lands are to be found. As far as returns have been made, they furnish the following results :

Of the towns in which lots have been leased, there are in the County of Windham, 5 towns, annual rent, \$164.11—Orange, 3 towns, \$101.71—Washington, 5 towns, \$90.00—Franklin, 7 towns, \$185.08—Chittenden, 11 towns, \$437.33—Addison, 12 towns, \$428.76—Rutland, 6 towns, \$168.76—Total \$1,575.75.

From these towns considerable sums have been received, and still larger, reckoning back to the time of recovery, are yet due, as will appear from the following table :

<i>Counties.</i>	<i>Rents for 3 years.</i>	<i>Amount received.</i>
Windham	\$492 33	\$278.77
Orange	305 13	259.54
Washington	270.00	241.50
Franklin	555.24	318.40
Chittenden	1,311.19	850.33
Addison	1,286 28	827.72
Rutland	506.28	288.79
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$4,726 45	\$3,065.05
	3,065 05	
	<hr/>	
	\$661.40	

* Any contributions taken up by delinquent Parishes, may be forwarded to the Secretary, directed to Shelburn, Vermont.

Of the number and value of the unleased lots, no satisfactory estimate can be made.

The Agents have proceeded to adjust some of the claims upon the lands for expenses in recovery, and besides other small matters, have made the following appropriations: To Rev. A. Bronson, \$1,200.00—A. Sperry, Esq. \$1,134.00—J. Hopkinson, Esq. \$900.00—Daniel Chipman, Esq. \$337.58—Total, \$3,571.58. All which, with some other items, will appear by the following summary of the Treasurer's books:

Dr.

Amount received exclusive of expenses incurred in effecting leases, surveying lands, &c. in the county of Windham,				\$278 77
Amount received	do.	do.	in Orange county,	259 54
do.	do.	do.	Washington "	241 50
do.	do.	do.	Franklin "	318 40
do.	do.	do.	Chittenden "	850 33
do.	do.	do.	Addison "	827 72
do.	do.	do.	Rutland "	288 79
				<hr/>
				\$3,065 05

Cr.

Amount paid to Hon. D. Chipman,				\$1,657 76
[Mr. Chipman's account for monies expended in suits—for a sum heretofore allowed him, and for cash paid to Mr. Hopkinson, is something larger than the amount received by him.]				
Paid A. J. Sperry, Esq. towards an appropriation in his favor,				330 00
Paid Episcopal Society in Middlebury,				160 00
Paid do. do. Guilford	-	-	-	160 50
Paid do. do. Shelburn,	-	-	-	89 79
Paid Rev. A. Bronson,	-	-	-	106 00
Paid Rt. Rev. Bp. Griswold,	-	-	-	100 00
Paid for blank books for Treasurer and county Agents—for blanks for returns, &c. and for travelling expenses to adjust accounts with county Agents,				
				83 08
Paid Hon. Jonathan H. Hubbard, and charged him in account,				50 00
Now in the hands of the Treasurer,				63 62
Now in the hands of county Agents subject to the order of the Treasurer,				244 30
				<hr/>
				\$3,065 05

June 28, 1826.

From the foregoing statement it will be seen that greater difficulty and delay have attended the adjustment of this business than were at first anticipated; and that the total amount of nett annual income falls very far below the extravagant expectations of the public.

It has afforded the Prudential Committee the greatest pleasure, however, to observe with what accuracy all accounts are kept, and with what wisdom and efficiency arrangements have been made for future collections, and what sure vouchers are required, and safe checks are provided in all money transactions. It would seem to them scarcely possible that the arrangements adopted, and now in actual experiment, should not make collections alike prompt, safe, and economical.

Whether more efficient measures might not be adopted for securing the rents of lots yet unleased, remains with the wisdom of the Agents. If no risk attends present delay, this certainly appears less important, since all

rents can be recovered, back to the time of the first favourable decision of the Supreme Court, in February, 1823.

The Prudential Committee, in conclusion, beg leave to express the high opinion which they entertain of the care and integrity of the Agents in the discharge of their difficult and responsible duties. The efficiency of their measures is materially diminished by the remoteness of their residence from each other, and the consequent difficulty of effecting regular meetings, as well as by the distance of the various Agents to whom the business in the several counties is entrusted. But the confidence which this Convention has reason to place in their general faithfulness, may safely be unlimited.

This Committee cannot but suggest, before closing, the vast importance of procuring the perpetuation of the powers, under which the present Agents and Attornies act, or rather such a modification of them, as may render the conveyance irrevocable, and place the whole business more directly under the supervision of the Convention.

All which is respectfully submitted, by the Prudential Committee, through their Chairman,
B. B. SMITH.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That in view of the Report of the Prudential Committee respecting the proceedings of the General Agents of the Church lands in this State, this Convention is fully satisfied of the wisdom and equity of the proceedings thus reported, and would express its thanks to the Prudential Committee for their laborious attention to the subject submitted to them.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Agents of the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel," &c. be and they hereby are requested to require of Parishes applying to them for assistance from their funds, a detailed account of the number of Parishioners, the amount of their Grand List, and also the amount of salary actually raised by said Parishes for their Rector or Minister.

The following preamble and resolution, presented by Hon. Dudley Chase, was unanimously adopted :

It being, in the opinion of this Convention, important that the clergy and people of our respective parishes be furnished with the means of sound and useful instruction, and that without access to books such information cannot be obtained ; and as in the infant state of our Church the moderate salaries of our clergy will not enable them to purchase books : It is therefore

Resolved, That this Convention recommend each parish in the State of Vermont to establish a Parochial Library for the use of the existing Clergyman and members thereof ; and that the Minister or

Wardens of each Parish be requested to return an annual report to this Convention of the condition of its Parochial Library.

On motion,

Voted, that the next meeting of this Convention be held in Christ Church, Bethel.

Rev. Sylvester Nash was appointed to preach before the next Convention, and Rev. Carlton Chase his substitute.

The following resolution of the last Convention of the Eastern Diocese was submitted to the Convention :

Resolved, that the Secretary be requested to inform the Secretaries of the several State Conventions composing this Diocese, "that the business of devising means for the more effectual support of the Episcopate is committed to the State Conventions, and that they are hereby requested to attend to that duty," which was referred to a committee of three to report to the next Convention ; upon which committee the following persons were appointed—Hon. Dudley Chase, Hon. Daniel Chipman, Rev. Benjamin B. Smith.

Adjourned until 6 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, June 29, 1826—6 o'clock, A. M.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Rev. Abraham Bronson was elected President.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Smith,

Resolved, that the Treasurer of the Contingent Fund be and hereby is directed to vest the balance of said Fund, after deducting the expense of printing the Journal of this Convention, in such manner as it may accumulate to the best advantage.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Smith,

Voted, that the Secretary be directed to publish six hundred copies of the Journal of this Convention at the expense of the Contingent Fund.

After prayer by the President, the Convention adjourned without day.

A true record—Attest,

JOEL CLAP, *Secretary.*

JOURNAL

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF

THE CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

In the State of Vermont,

HELD IN CHRIST CHURCH,

BETHEL,

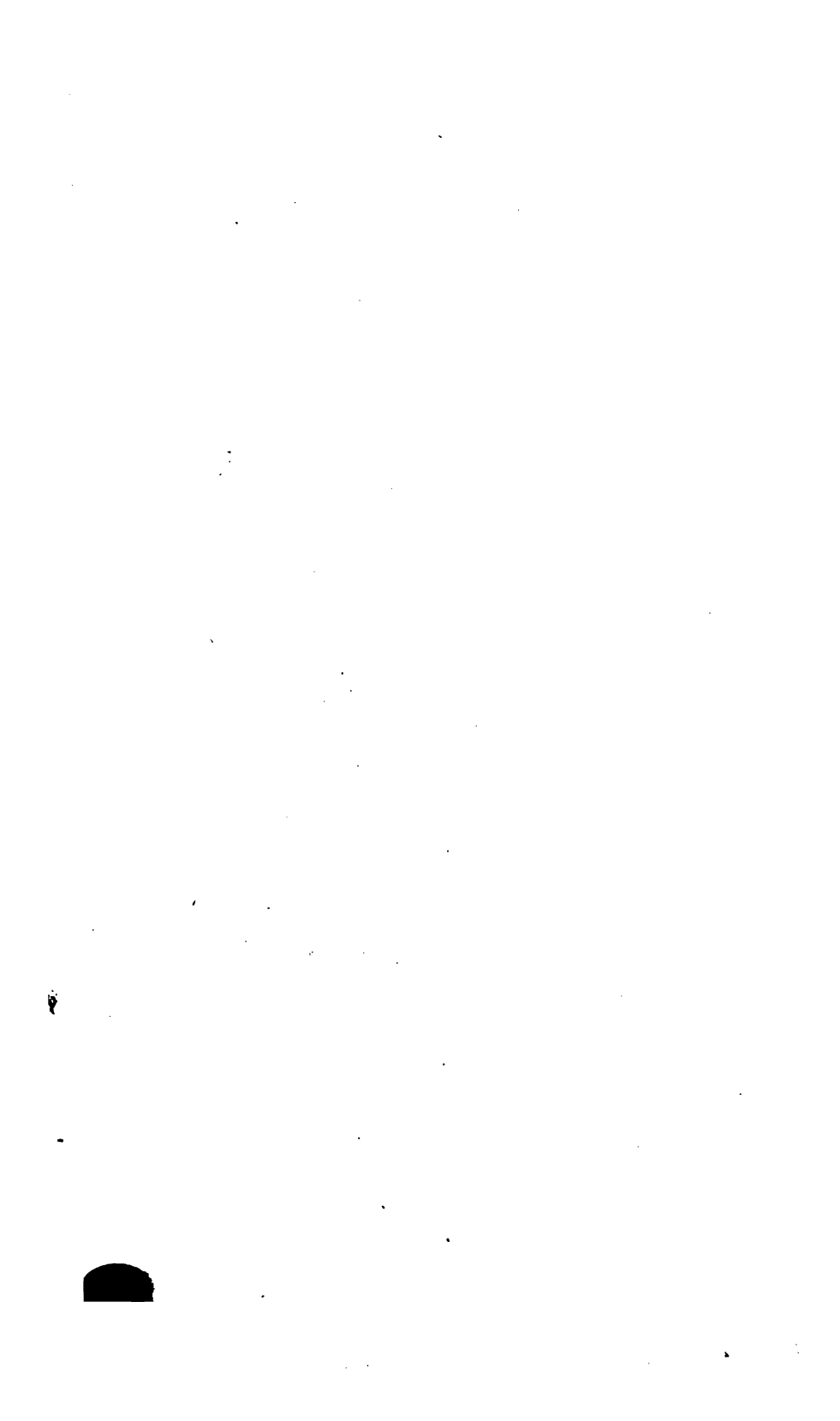
June 27, 1827.

WOODSTOCK:

PRINTED BY DAVID WATSON.

1827.

32637



JOURNAL.

Bethel, June 27, 1827.

This being the day and place assigned for the annual meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Vermont, a number of the Clergy, and Lay Delegates from several Parishes in said State, assembled in Christ Church, Bethel, at 9 o'clock, A. M. and were called to order by Rev. Abraham Bronson.

PRESENT.

- REV. MOORE BINGHAM, *Deacon, Minister of Grace Church, Sheldon, and Trinity Church, Fairfield.*
REV. JOHN BRISTED, *Rector of — Church, Ferrisburgh.*
REV. ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Rector of Zion Church, Manchester.*
REV. CARLTON CHASE, *Rector of Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.*
REV. JOEL GLAP, *Rector of Trinity Church, Shelburn.*
REV. J. HOWLAND COIT, *Deacon, Minister of Bethel Church, Arlington.*
REV. SYLVESTER NASH, *Rector of Union Church, St. Albans.*
REV. RICHARD PECK, *Deacon, Minister of Calvary Church, Berkshire, Union Church, Montgomery, and Christ Church, Enosburgh.*
REV. S. BRENTON SHAW, *Rector of Christ Church, Guilford.*
REV. BENJ. B. SMITH, *Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.*

Lay Delegates who presented their credentials, and took their seats in Convention :

- NORLE HARD, *from Bethel Church, Arlington.*
HOR. DUDLEY CHASE, }
LUTHER GROVER, } " *Christ Church, Bethel.*
THOS. P. RUSSEL, }
OLIVER GLEASON, }
NEHEMIAH SAXTON, " *Trinity Church, Shelburn.*
JOHN RICHARDSON, " *Union Church, St. Albans.*
DANIEL SMITH, " *Grace Church, Sheldon.*
ABJAH WILLIAMS, " *St. John's Church, Poultney.*
JOSEPH A. GALLUP, " *St. James' Church, Woodstock.*

Rev. Abraham Bronson was elected President, and Rev. Joel Clap, Secretary of this Convention.

On motion by Mr. Gleason,

Resolved, That Mr. John Whitlock of Castleton, and Mr. Abijah Hawley of Fairfax, be admitted to honorary seats in this Convention.

Whereupon the said gentlemen appeared and took their seats.

Rev. Mr. Smith, Chairman of the Prudential Committee, presented the following Report, which was read and laid upon the table:

Report of Prudential Committee.—According to the standing direction of Convention, this Committee has waited upon the Treasurer of the Agents of the "Society's Lands," and examined the few documents he had to submit, besides those which were submitted to Convention in its last report. But as returns have been received from only four of the County Agents, and the principal pecuniary transactions have been carried on through them, the Treasurer found it impossible to present a full and satisfactory statement. He has, however, been called upon by the Agents themselves to exhibit a perfect account at their next meeting in August, which he obligingly promises to present to the public in the religious Journal published in this State.

B. B. SMITH, *Chairman*.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That the following amendment to the Constitution, which was proposed at the last annual meeting of this Convention, be and hereby is adopted;

In Article 2d, instead of the words, "The said Convention shall meet annually on the fourth Wednesday in June," insert, "The said Convention shall meet annually on the last Wednesday in May."

A communication from the Secretary of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies of the General Convention was read and referred to a Committee of three, consisting of Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Benj. B. Smith, Hon. Dudley Chase.

On motion, the Convention proceeded to the election of a Standing Committee for the year ensuing, when the following gentlemen were duly elected; Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Benj. B. Smith, Rev. S. Brenton Shaw, Rev. Joel Clap, Rev. Sylvester Nash.

The Convention adjourned for the purpose of attending divine service.

Morning prayers were read by Rev. Benj. B. Smith, and a Sermon preached by Rev. Sylvester Nash; the Holy Communion was administered by Rev. President. After which the Convention met according to adjournment, and adjourned until 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Wednesday, 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Treasurer of the Contingent Fund presented the following Report, which was read and accepted :

Joel Clap, Treasurer of the Contingent Fund, in account with the Convention.

Dr.

To Cash then on hand as per report of 1826	\$45.83
To Cash per Rev. Mr. Shaw, Contribution from Christ Church, Guilford, received in Oct. 1826.	5.00
To contributions this day taken up in Christ Church, Bethel	7.93
Zion Church, Manchester	3.06
Christ Church, Guilford	5.06
Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls	6.50
Christ Church, Bethel	8.56
St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury	5.50
Trinity Church, Shelburn	5.00
Union Church, St. Albans	4.63
To interest on \$33.83 one year, and \$5.00 eight months	2.34
	<u>\$99.35</u>

Cr.

By Cash paid D. Watson for printing Journal of 1826 \$12.00

Balance now in the hands of the Treasurer \$87.35

June 27, 1827.

JOEL CLAP, Treasurer.

The Committee to whom the communication from the Secretary of the General Convention, relating to proposed alterations of the Liturgy was referred, reported the following Resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the communication from the Secretary of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies of the General Convention, be referred to the Standing Committee, to be reported upon at the next annual meeting of this Convention.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase, the Report of the Prudential committee was called up, accepted, and the farther consideration of the same referred to the next annual meeting of this Convention.



JOURNAL.

Bethel, June 27, 1827.

This being the day and place assigned for the annual meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Vermont, a number of the Clergy, and Lay Delegates from several Parishes in said State, assembled in Christ Church, Bethel, at 9 o'clock, A. M. and were called to order by Rev. Abraham Bronson.

PRESENT.

- Rev. MOORE BINGHAM, *Deacon, Minister of Grace Church, Sheldon, and Trinity Church, Fairfield.*
Rev. JOHN BRISTED, *Rector of — Church, Ferrisburgh.*
Rev. ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Rector of Zion Church, Manchester.*
Rev. CARLTON CHASE, *Rector of Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.*
Rev. JOEL CLAP, *Rector of Trinity Church, Shelburn.*
Rev. J. HOWLAND COIT, *Deacon, Minister of Bethel Church, Arlington.*
Rev. SYLVESTER NASH, *Rector of Union Church, St. Albans.*
Rev. RICHARD PECK, *Deacon, Minister of Calvary Church, Berkshire, Union Church, Montgomery, and Christ Church, Enosburgh.*
Rev. S. BRENTON SHAW, *Rector of Christ Church, Guilford.*
Rev. BENJ. B. SMITH, *Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.*

Lay Delegates who presented their credentials, and took their seats in Convention :

- NOBLE HARD, *from Bethel Church, Arlington.*
HON. DUDLEY CHASE, }
LUTHER GROVER, } " *Christ Church, Bethel.*
THOS. P. RUSSEL, }
OLIVER GLEASON, }
NEHEMIAH SAXTON, " *Trinity Church, Shelburn.*
JOHN RICHARDSON, " *Union Church, St. Albans.*
DANIEL SMITH, " *Grace Church, Sheldon.*
ABJAH WILLIAMS, " *St. John's Church, Poultney.*
JOSEPH A. GALLUP, " *St. James' Church, Woodstock.*

Union Church, St. Albans.—By the blessing of God, the affairs of Union Church have been, on the whole, prosperous during the year past, though not as eminently so as might be wished. The congregation has gradually, and it is hoped, permanently increased, and has been uniformly attentive and serious. And although it is not known that any peculiar degree of attention to the subject of religion at present exists, strong hopes are cherished that the Head of the Church will eventually give increase to the seed sown, and gather a harvest of souls into his Church, as heirs of glory. The present Rector took charge of the parish immediately after the last convention, and has regularly officiated there three-fourths of the time, and had occasionally extra services in the neighborhood. Soon after his entering upon the duties of the parish, a Bible Class was formed, which still continues. A Female Missionary Society, Auxiliary to the Missionary Society of this State, has also been formed, which bids fair for permanent usefulness, and has already forwarded fourteen dollars and 25 cents to the Secretary of the Parent Society, besides making a considerable donation to the Pastor. One afternoon in each week, the Female Communicants meet for devotional exercises, especially prayer, that the Lord would visit and revive his Church. An excellent organ, sufficiently large for the Church, has also been obtained, which adds greatly to the music of the Church. The number of Sunday scholars is small, but probably as large as could in reason be expected, there being two others in the place.

Twelve Communicants have been added within the year, and three have removed. Present number of Communicants, 24.—Baptisms, Adults, 3, Children, 2, total, 5.—Funerals, 4.—Marriages, 3.

S. NASH, Rector.

Christ's Church, Swanton.—When I took charge of the Parish at St. Albans, it was expected that I should officiate one fourth of the time in Swanton, which I accordingly did for about three months, when the Vestry thought it best for me to preach in Fairfax instead of Swanton. Consequently my services in Swanton were only occasional after this. Early in the spring, two families which contained all the communicants, removed to New-York. The operations of the Society have, therefore, for the present, entirely ceased.

S. NASH, Rector.

Fairfax.—The Vestry of Union Church having advised to suspend regular appointments in Swanton, they were transferred to a School House in the corner of Fairfax, about five miles from St. Albans, where several of the communicants of Union Church reside. In that place the services have been numerous and attentively attended, and it is hoped good may result.

S. NASH.

Caleary Church, Berkshire.—Baptisms, Infants, 2, Adults, 10. Marriages, 1. Funerals, 3. Communicants, added 20, 51.

Union Church, Montgomery.—Baptisms, Infants, 5, Adult, 1. Funeral, 1. Communicants, added 3, 38.

Christ's Church, Enosburgh.—Baptisms, Infants, 10, Adults, 3. Funeral, 1. Communicants, added 5, removed 3, 14.

RICHARD PECK, *Minister.*

Grace Church, Sheldon.—Communicants, 40. Added 1. Suspended from communion, 1. Withdrawn and dismissed, 2.

Though the number of communicants in this Church has diminished, since the report of 1826, yet it is believed that the true interests and prosperity of the Church have been in no degree impaired by the change. This Church cannot be represented as in a prosperous state; its members and friends, however, are very far from despairing of better days, days of prosperity and grace.

MOORE BINGHAM, *Minister.*

Trinity Church, Fairfield.—Communicants, 69, added 1. Baptisms, 6. Marriages, 2. Funerals, 5.

MOORE BINGHAM, *Minister.*

Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.—Baptisms, 2. Deaths, 2. Marriages, 1. Communicants, 46. Sunday Scholars, 63. This Parish is considered by its Rector, to be in a condition highly prosperous.

C. CHASE, *Rector.*

Christ's Church, Guilford.—The prospects and condition of this Parish continue encouraging, and after an experiment of nine years, it may be considered as having acquired a permanency of character. "This is the Lord's doing," and, considering the peculiarity of its origin, it is surely "wonderful in our eyes." The Sunday Schools contain the usual number of scholars; and religious publications, patronized by the Church, are eagerly read by the people. There have been, since the last convention, 7 Baptisms, 12 Marriages, only 2 Funerals, and 13 Births. Present number of habitual Communicants, 54. Sunday Scholars, 75, and more than 80 families who meet for divine service in both congregations.

SAMUEL BRENTON SHAW, *Rector.*

Trinity Church, Shelburn.—Baptisms, Adult, 1, Infants, 5. Marriage, 1. Funerals, 4. Communicants, about 83. No essential alteration has taken place in the condition of this Parish during the past year. Very great inconvenience is still experienced, from the interruption of parochial duty, resulting from the partial support of their Rector, and arrangements are now in progress to provide for the adequate support of a Rector.

JOEL CLAP, *Rector.*

Christ Church, Bethel.—Baptisms, Adults, 3, Infants, 8, total 11. Communicants, 81. The spiritual condition of this Parish is, we humbly trust,



2d Article of the Constitution, as amended, June 27, A.D. 1827.

The said Convention shall meet annually on the last Wednesday in May, at such place as shall be appointed at a previous meeting; and all the Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, residing in this State, shall be entitled to seats in the said Convention; and Lay Delegates from the several Churches in this State, shall be entitled to seats in Convention in the following proportion, viz. each Church shall have the privilege of sending at least one member; if it consists of 10 or more communicants, it may send two members; and for every 25 communicants exceeding the number above specified, the said Churches shall be entitled to an additional member.

OFFICERS

OF THE

Missionary Society

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN VERMONT.

Right Rev. ALEXANDER V. GRISWOLD, D. D. *President, ex officio.*

Rev. ABRAHAM BRONSON, *1st Vice President.*

Rev. CARLTON CHASE, *2d Vice President.*

Rev. JOEL CLAP, *Shelburn, Secretary.*

GEORGE CLEVELAND, Esq. P. M. *Middlebury, Treasurer.*

Rev. BENJAMIN B. SMITH,

Rev. JOEL CLAP,

JOSHUA ISHAM,

} *Managers.*

Agents under the provisions of the 9th article of the Constitution.

Amherst Willoughby, *Berkshire.*

William Barber, *Enosburgh.*

Henry N. Jones, *Montgomery.*

Nathan Lobdell, *Fairfield.*

John Richardson, *Fairfax.*

Samuel A. Wilkins, *St. Albans.*

Phineas Atwater, *Burlington.*

Joshua Isham, *Shelburn.*

Moses Lester, *Rutland.*

Truman Purdy, *Manchester.*

Enos Canfield, *Arlington.*

Zenas Prindle, *Sandgate.*

Alexander Fleming, *Bellevue Falls.*

Thomas Leland, *Windsor.*

Thomas P. Russell, *Bethel.*

Seth C. Crocker, *Randolph.*



JOURNAL

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF

THE CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

In the State of Vermont,

Held in St. James' Church, Woodstock,

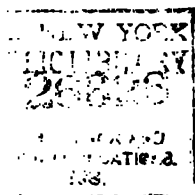
on

the 28th and 29th days of May, 1828.

WOODSTOCK :

PRINTED BY DAVID WATSON

1828.



JOURNAL.

Pursuant to the provision of the Constitution, the annual meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Vermont was opened on Wednesday, May 28, 1888, at 9 o'clock, A. M. in St. James' Church, Woodstock. The Convention was called to order by the Rev. Abraham Bronson.

PRESENT.

The Rev. MOORE BINGHAM, *Minister of Grace Church, Sheldon, and Trinity Church, Fairfield.*

The Rev. ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Rector of Zion Church, Manchester.*

The Rev. CARLTON CHASE, *Rector of Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.*

The Rev. JOEL CLAP, *Rector of Christ Church, Bethel, and St. James' Church, Woodstock.*

The Rev. LOUIS McDONALD, *Rector of Trinity Church, Shelburn.*

The Rev. SYLVESTER NASH, *Rector of Union Church, St. Albans.*

The Rev. S. BRENTON SHAW, *Rector of Christ Church, Guilford.*

The Rev. BENJAMIN B. SMITH, *Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.*

The following gentlemen presented their credentials, and took their seats as Lay Delegates:

RUFUS SMITH, *from Union Church, Montgomery.*

ABIJAH STONE, " *Union Church, St. Albans.*

ABIJAH HAWLEY, " *Trinity Church, Fairfield.*

ASA LYON, 2d, " *Trinity Church, Shelburn.*

LUTHER GROVER,	}	<i>from Christ Church, Bethel.</i>
OLIVER GLEASON,		
THOS. P. RUSSELL,		
HENRY T. GREEN,	}	<i>" Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.</i>
JOHN ATKINSON,		
DAVID B. LEWIS,	<i>"</i>	<i>St. Paul's Church, Wells.</i>
MANSFIELD FRENCH,	<i>"</i>	<i>Zion Church, Manchester.</i>
SIMEON COLE,	<i>"</i>	<i>Bethel Church, Arlington.</i>
GERSHOM GIFFORD,	<i>"</i>	<i>St. John's Church, Poultney.</i>
JONATHAN H. HUBBARD,	}	<i>" St. Paul's Church, Windsor.</i>
SIMEON IDE,		
JOSEPH A. GALLUP,	}	<i>St. James' Church, Woodstock.</i>
ROYAL BLAKE,		

The Rev. Abraham Bronson was appointed President, and the Rev. Joel Clap, Secretary.

The following report of the Prudential Committee was presented, read, and accepted.

REPORT OF PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

Information with regard to the present state of the trust reposed in the Agents of the Society's Lands, desired by the public, and expected by this Convention through the medium of the Prudential Committee, remains still so limited and ill-defined, that their report might perhaps as well be dispensed with. Many of the lots still remain unleased. Accounts from the County Agents are not yet generally rendered. Expenses in recovery and upon recent suits are still unliquidated. Back rents in many cases are still due. And, in a word, the whole business is in so unsettled a state, that neither the Agents themselves, nor their Treasurer, nor your Committee, can possibly, in any limited time, reduce confusion to order, or present a lucid or satisfactory view of the actual condition of their affairs.

Your Committee can simply say, that this unsettled state of things, and this protracted delay, have mainly resulted from causes beyond the control of the Agents, and entirely from the inconveniences inseparable from public trusts connected with scattered property. No possible objection exists to the exhibition of the Treasurer's account as it actually stands and that document is accordingly appended to this report.

Report of the Treasurer of the Vermont Agency of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts....1828.

The whole amount of monies received by this Agency from its first establishment to the present time (exclusive of sums allowed to the several County Agents for their services in effecting leases, and money expended; and for services rendered by other persons in surveying the lands and organic.

ing the business of the Agency—for all which payments have been made previous to this date, as appears by the Treasurer's books) is six thousand thirty-eight dollars and seventy-three cents \$6038 73

The following payments have been made by order of the Agents, viz.

Towards the expenses of sundry suits instituted by the Agents, and a suit instituted against them by the State of Vermont, which was decided in their favor at the last October term of the Circuit Court, the sum of nine hundred seventy dollars and fifty-five cents 975 55

To the different Episcopal Societies in the State of Vermont the following sums, viz.

To the Society in the town of Guilford	315 50
" " " Middlebury	236 32
" " " Fairfield and Sheldon	66 87
" " " Swanton	12 00
" " " Shelburn	127 66
" " " Ferrisburgh	36 00
" " " St. Albans	113 15

In all \$907 50

From the lands in Ferrisburgh it is supposed by the Treasurer that the Rev. John Bristed has received, in addition to the sum of \$36 mentioned above, the sum of \$108—making in all \$144—but as the accounts are not closed, only \$36 has passed to account in the Treasurer's books.

It should also be remarked, that the Treasurer has no return for the last year from the county of Windham, but has set down the full amount of rents secured in Guilford as received by the Society in that town—presuming that the whole was collected and received.

Sundry payments upon orders in favour of Anson J. Sperry, Esq. drawn by the Agents upon the Treasurer, in all 830 00

do. upon orders drawn in favor of Abraham Bronson 387 50

do. an order in favour of Mr. Isham for monies by him advanced 27 00

Paid amount of an order in favour of Rt. Rev. Bishop Griswold, dated Oct. 15, 1825 100 00

Paid bill of postage for the last three years 13 19

This sum allowed the Treasurer by the Agents as his salary for three years, ending June 1, 1828, at \$50 per year 150 00

This sum paid Rev. Abraham Bronson upon an order in favour of the Episcopal Society in Manchester, for monies advanced by said Society in defending a lawsuit in regard to the Church lands 141 00

Monies received by Daniel Chipman, one of the Agents, in the years 1823, 1824, 1825, and 1826 1692 03

It is perhaps proper to remark that Mr. Chipman has an appropriation in his favour for \$337 58, for services and monies expended in the suit in favour of the Society against the town of New-Haven, and also another order for \$17 00, for subsequent services—making in all 354 58

Has also \$6 passed to his credit on the books for monies paid H. Richardson for blank book 6 00—360 53

Which leaves a balance against him, as the books stand, of \$1331 45.

Of this he has paid about \$800 towards a claim in favour of Mr. Hopkinson for his services in the New-Haven suit in the Supreme Court of the United States, and has an account yet unliquidated, which, it is supposed, will nearly cover the balance which appears against him on the Treasurer's books.

This sum is due from the Hon. Dana Miller, who resigned the agency in Windham County about one year ago, and soon after failed—it is not probable that any thing will be realized 106 63

There is now in the hands of the Treasurer, and in the hands of the County Agents, subject to his order, this sum 708 33

Amounting in all to \$6036 73

There is to be paid early in June about \$600 to Mr. Atkinson for monies *advanced* by him in procuring evidence in England, and *sending* out a copy of the Society's charter under the great seal. There is also to be paid to the counsel in the *taxes* pending \$100, immediately. These sums will cover the amount which the Treasurer can command within the next few months; but he hopes early in the fall to be able to pay all arrearages of appropriations which have been made to parishes, and an order for \$100 to Bishop Griswold.

All which is respectfully submitted.

CALVIN C. WALLER.

Middlebury, May 26, 1828.

To the wisdom of this Convention, upon the suggestion of one of the Society's Agents, it seemed best, at their last meeting, to resolve,

"That the Prudential Committee be requested to concert measures with the Agents of the Society's Lands, for the purpose of procuring from the Society in England such documents and powers, as may be necessary to render their grant permanent and effectual, and to adopt such other *meth-*ods as they may deem necessary towards rendering their appropriation efficient and useful."

Your Committee, on the day after the rising of the Convention, accordingly met the Rt. Rev. Bishop Griswold, and another of the Agents of the Society, and also the Attorney of the Agents, in Windsor, in order to prepare proper documents to be transmitted, for the purposes specified in the above resolution, by the hands of the Rev. C. Chase, then purposing soon to embark for England. Upon the failure of his purpose, this negotiation has been suspended from the want of a suitable medium of communication with said Society.

JOEL CLAP, *for Committee.*

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the expediency of taking any measures in aid of the Agents of the Society's Lands in this State, to render the execution of their trust more prompt and efficient, and report to this Convention.

The following gentlemen were appointed said committee: Rev. Mr. Chase, Jonathan H. Hubbard, and Jos. A. Gallup.

On motion, the business of the Convention was suspended for the purpose of attending divine service. Morning prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Nash, and a sermon preached by the Rev. B. B. Smith. After which the Holy Communion was administered by the Rev. President. The Convention then resumed business, and on motion of the Rev. Mr. Chase adjourned until 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Wednesday, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Smith,

Resolved, That all Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church and candidates for holy orders in the same, who may be present, and are not entitled to seats in this Convention, be admitted to honorary seats in the same.

Whereupon the Rev. George Leonard, of Cornish, N. H. and Mr. George P. Williams, a candidate, for holy orders, appeared and took their seats.

On motion by the Rev. B. B. Smith,

Resolved, That this Convention now proceed to the election of a Standing Committee for the year ensuing.

Whereupon the following gentlemen were duly elected: The Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Benjamin B. Smith, Rev. Joel Clap, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Samuel B. Shaw.

The following communication from the Secretary of the Convention of the Eastern Diocese was read, and on motion of the Rev. B. B. Smith laid on the table.

Rev. and Dear Sir,

Middlebury, Oct. 2, 1827.

It becomes my duty to communicate to you the following resolutions of the Diocesan Convention, passed at the late session at Claremont, Sept. 27, 1827.

"On motion of the Rev. C. Burroughs, *Resolved*, That this Convention think it desirable and important that the State Conventions of the Eastern Diocese should, previous to the next meeting of the General Convention, express their opinions relative to the alterations proposed in the Liturgy and in the constitution of the Church by the last General Convention; and that this resolve be communicated to the Secretaries of the respective State Conventions."

"On motion of the Rev. A. L. Baury, *Resolved*, That the Secretary be requested to call upon the Secretaries of the several State Conventions composing this Diocese, with a view of ascertaining if any thing, and what has been done, for the more effectual support of the Episcopate, and that they be requested to report to the next Convention of this Diocese.

I have the honor to be, with perfect respect,

Yours, &c.

B. B. SMITH, Secretary.

J. JOEL CLAP, Secretary of the Convention
of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Vermont.

On report of the committee appointed by the last convention to take into consideration the expediency of adopting measures for the separation of this State from the Eastern Diocese, it was

Resolved, that the further consideration of this subject be indefinitely postponed.

The following parochial reports were presented and read:

Zion Church, Manchester.—Baptisms, 4; Marriages, 2; Funeral, 1; Communicants, 34.

There is a Sunday School Society connected with this parish, auxiliary to the General Sunday School Union of the church,—also an Auxiliary Female Missionary Society, a Juvenile Female Prayer Book and Tract Society. The course of Biblical instruction to the young people has been continued, and, it is hoped, with material benefit. Through the instrumentality of this parish, a Library Society has been formed in the town; and, besides the funds raised by the proprietors, it has received a donation of books, estimated at more than \$200, from a deceased patron. The Rector continues his Sunday evening lectures in Dorset. The parish have within a short time raised money to purchase a church bell, which is to be ready for their use in a few days.

ATTEST,

ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Rector*.

Bethel Church, Arlington.—Communicants, 100. Baptisms, 10, Infants, 3, Adults, 7. Death, 1. Marriages, 4.

J. HOWLAND COIT, *Rector*.

Christ Church, Guilford.—Within the year past there have been baptized in this parish, ten persons, two of whom were adults—fifteen couples have been married. There have been eleven burials and sixteen births. Five have been added to the communion, and one communicant has died: present number, fifty-eight. There are in this parish two Sunday Schools, containing between seventy and eighty scholars, and two Bible Classes of young ladies. There are ninety-two families which regularly attend church, and about four hundred and fifty souls in the parish. The church on the whole may be considered as flourishing. Although she has lost in the death of the Senior Warden an ardent and valuable friend, nevertheless the Divine blessing has not deserted her. Her services on the Sabbath are remarkably well attended, and the hostility manifested by other denominations in former times, has almost entirely ceased.

S. B. SHAW, *Rector*.

Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.—Baptisms, 5; Death, 1, (of a child by accident;) Marriage, 1; Communicants, 46.

Of the names standing on our Register at the last convention we have lost several by removals, while our number around the altar has been kept good by additions. Although this parish has for several years had its Sunday School, and has felt somewhat of the good effects of those institutions, yet it may be reported, that during the past year the subject has excited a singularly deep and general interest. The method of inciting to industry by the distribution of graduated rewards has been laid aside. A library has been formed, consisting of one hundred and eighty volumes. The

* This report was forwarded after the rising of the Convention

of this, together with the constant exertions of the teachers to render the studies and exercises interesting, has been found to furnish a sufficient incitement. The school was not suspended during the winter. The rolls for this season will probably show about sixty scholars. Exertions have recently been made to form a parish library, and made with pleasing success. The amount of subscriptions and donations for that purpose (mostly cash) is not far from \$120,00, which will be immediately appropriated. It may be proper to mention also, that during the year the ladies of the parish have formed a society for useful and benevolent objects—the principal of which are the distribution of the Scriptures among the needy, and the increase of the parish library. Their income for this year is estimated at about \$40,00.

CARLTON CHASE, *Rector*.

St. Paul's Church, Windsor.—There have been in this Church the year past, 8 baptisms, 2 adults, and 6 children, 2 marriages, and 4 burials.

The year previous, for which there was no report made to the last Convention, owing to the absence of the Rector, there were 8 baptisms, all children, 2 marriages, and 2 burials.

The number of communicants in St. Paul's Church is 30; the Church since its organization in 1816 having suffered heavily by deaths and removals, and four members having withdrawn themselves from communicating, without giving a reason for so doing.

The Sunday School consists of about 30 scholars.

GEORGE LEONARD, *Rector*.

Christ Church, Bethel.—Baptisms, Adults 3, Infants 5. Funerals 2, Marriage 1. Communicants 88.

On the first of November last, the undersigned left the charge of Trinity Church, Shelburn, and removed to this parish, and assumed the duties of its rector, since which time his labors have been divided between this and the parish of St. James' Church, Woodstock. The parsonage, very much to the praise of the parish, is completed; but it is a subject of deep regret that our expectation in relation to the establishment of a parochial library is not yet realized.

JOEL CLAP, *Rector*.

St. James' Church, Woodstock.—Baptisms, Adult 1, Infants 2. Funerals 1. Communicants 24.

Under the divine blessing, the church edifice, in which we are now assembled, is very nearly completed, and much credit is due for the very great exertions which have been made by the parish, yet in its infancy, in furnishing it with a bell and organ, and fitting it up in such convenient order for the celebration of public worship.

A Sunday School, consisting of about 40 scholars, has been recently organized under the superintendence of Mr. George P. Williams, which is in a very prosperous condition. And chiefly through the liberality of the ladies of the parish, about \$30,00 have been raised for the purchase of a library for the use of said School.

JOEL CLAP, *Rector*.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.—The new church edifice was so far completed as to be consecrated on the 14th of October last, but has been occupied as the regular place of worship only since the first of December. Since that time the congregation has very considerably increased. Indeed, upon a review of the last five years, it appears that it has nearly doubled. At that time about 30 families and 8 single male contributors, made up the whole parish. Death and removals have reduced considerably this number. The parish now consists of about 50 families, and 20 single male supporters. By a like review of communicants it appears that 30 were connected with the church at the first report of the present Rector. Other 33 have been

The Standing Committee, to whom was referred a communication from the Secretary of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies of the General Convention, relating to certain proposed alterations in the liturgy, recommended the following resolution to be adopted by this Convention:

Resolved, That this Convention are convinced of the expediency of making some alterations in the liturgy of the Church, and especially of shortening the morning service; but the proposed amendments, taken together, are not such as they think best calculated to effect the desired object. They would, however, express the opinion, that the proposed form of a preface to the Confirmation Office, is preferable to the one now in use, and if it may be acted upon by itself, they would recommend its adoption.

ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Chairman*.

The following report was read and accepted.

The Committee to whom was referred, by a resolution of yesterday, the subject of the expediency of taking measures in aid of the Agents of the Society's lands in this State, with a view to render the execution of their trust more prompt and efficient, having attended to the duties of their appointment, beg leave to report,

That they consider it expedient and necessary, that measures be immediately taken for obtaining of the Society in England, the addition of three or four persons to the present number of Trustees, or general Agents,--- and also of securing, if possible, a perpetuation of the board.

That the agents who are charged with the collection of the rents of said lands, be requested to enforce the collection of the same as soon as they become due: and to pay the same over to the Treasurer immediately.

That measures be immediately taken to cause to be leased all such of the said lands as have not already been leased, so far at least as the same may be practicable.

The Committee conclude with recommending that the Prudential Committee be charged with the duty of conferring with the Agents or Trustees, and of concerting and prosecuting measures for effecting the objects contemplated in this Report.

C. CHASE, *Chairman of Com.*

On motion by the Rev. B. B. Smith,

Resolved, That the Prudential Committee be charged with the execution of the measures recommended in the above report.

On motion by the Rev. C. Chase,

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to publish at the expense of the contingent fund, six hundred copies of the Journal of the proceedings of this Convention.

The Rev. Abraham Bronson was appointed to preach before the next annual meeting of this Convention, and the Rev. Carlton Chase was appointed his substitute.

On motion, the Convention adjourned without day.

A true record—Attest,

JOEL CLAP, *Secretary*.

The following gentlemen were appointed Delegates to the General Convention: *Clergy*, Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Benjamin B. Smith, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Joel Clap. *Laymen*, Dudley Chase, Alexander Fleming, George Cleaveland, Royal Blake.

The following report of the Treasurer of the Contingent Fund was presented, read, and accepted.

The Treasurer of the Contingent Fund, in account with the Convention.

Dr.

To cash on hand, as per last report	\$87,35
To oblation this day received	10,68
To contributions this day received from the following Parishes:	
Union Church, St. Albans.	4,87
St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury	5,00
St. John's Church, Poultney.	2,50
Christ Church, Bethel.	9,00
Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.	7,00
To interest on \$75, 35 eleven months	4,24
	<hr/>
	\$130,64

Cr.

By cash paid David Watson for printing Journals of 1827 . . \$12,00

Balance on hand \$118,64

May 28, 1828.

JOEL CLAP, Treasurer.

On motion by Rev. B. B. Smith,

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of this Convention be held at Middlebury.

On motion by Rev. C. Chase,

Resolved, That in consideration of reports made to this Convention on the subject of the Church Lands in this State, it is inexpedient to take any further measures respecting the report of the Prudential Committee, made to the Convention in 1827, and postponed from that time to this.

The Convention adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, May 29th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Convention met according to adjournment.

The following report was presented, read and accepted; and the resolution contained in it adopted.

The Standing Committee, to whom was referred a communication from the Secretary of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies of the General Convention, relating to certain proposed alterations in the liturgy, recommend the following resolution to be adopted by this Convention:

Resolved, That this Convention are convinced of the expediency of making some alterations in the liturgy of the Church, and especially of shortening the morning service; but the proposed amendments, taken together, are not such as they think best calculated to effect the desired object. They would, however, express the opinion, that the proposed form of a preface to the Confirmation Office, is preferable to the one now in use, and if it may be acted upon by itself, they would recommend its adoption.

ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Chairman*.

The following report was read and accepted.

The Committee to whom was referred, by a resolution of yesterday, the subject of the expediency of taking measures in aid of the Agents of the Society's lands in this State, with a view to render the execution of their trust more prompt and efficient, having attended to the duties of their appointment, beg leave to report,

That they consider it expedient and necessary, that measures be immediately taken for obtaining of the Society in England, the addition of three or four persons to the present number of Trustees, or general Agents,--- and also of securing, if possible, a perpetuation of the board.

That the agents who are charged with the collection of the rents of said lands, be requested to enforce the collection of the same as soon as they become due: and to pay the same over to the Treasurer immediately.

That measures be immediately taken to cause to be leased all such of the said lands as have not already been leased, so far at least as the same may be practicable.

The Committee conclude with recommending that the Prudential Committee be charged with the duty of conferring with the Agents or Trustees, and of concerting and prosecuting measures for effecting the objects contemplated in this Report.

C. CHASE, *Chairman of Com.*

On motion by the Rev. B. B. Smith,

Resolved, That the Prudential Committee be charged with the execution of the measures recommended in the above report.

On motion by the Rev. C. Chase,

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to publish at the expense of the contingent fund, six hundred copies of the Journal of the proceedings of this Convention.

The Rev. Abraham Bronson was appointed to preach before the next annual meeting of this Convention, and the Rev. Carlton Chase was appointed his substitute.

On motion, the Convention adjourned without day.

A true record—Attest

JOEL CLAP, *Secretary*

Sup

26827

JOURNAL
OF THE
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
CONVENTION

OF THE
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
In the State of Vermont,
HELD IN ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, MIDDLEBURY,
ON THE
27TH AND 28TH DAYS OF MAY, 1829.

WOODSTOCK:
PRINTED BY DAVID WATSON.
1829.



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In pursuance of the above resolution, the Rev. George Leonard, of the Diocese of New-Hampshire, and the Rev. Moore Bingham, of the Diocese of New-York, appeared and took their seats.
On motion of Hon. Dorastus Wooster,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of petitioning the "Society for propagating the gospel in foreign parts," to appoint a new agency and new agents, superintend the avails of their lands in Vermont.

The following gentlemen were appointed a committee upon the above resolution: Hon. Dorastus Wooster, Rev. Joel Clark and Hon. Horatio Seymour.

The Convention was then adjourned for the purpose of attending divine service. Morning prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Chase, and a sermon delivered by the Rev. Mr. Bronson. The Holy Communion was then administered, after which the Convention met pursuant to adjournment, and adjourned until 3 o'clock this afternoon.

3 o'clock, P. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

The following report was presented, read and accepted, and the Resolution, which it contains, adopted:

The Committee raised on the resolution presented by D. Wooster, have had that subject under consideration, and approve of the measures recommended by the committee of the last annual Convention, to which the same subject was referred, and they recommend the adoption of the following resolution;

Resolved, That the Prudential committee be instructed to continue their exertions to carry into effect the recommendations of the committee of the last annual Convention, to which was referred the subject of aiding the Agents of the Society's lands in this state in rendering the execution of their trust more prompt and efficient; and that said committee be further requested to procure from the Agents, a detailed statement of the proceeds of the lands in season to be laid before the Convention at its annual meeting in each year.

D. WOOSTER, for Committee.

Gershom Gifford appeared, presented his credentials, and took his seat, as Lay Delegate from St. John's Church, Poultney.

On motion of Hon. Horatio Seymour,

Resolved, That a committee be raised to procure from the Agents of the Society's lands in this State, a full and detailed statement of the situation of the funds they have charge of, showing the quantity of land leased, the annual amount of rents that have been received, the amount that remains due, and the expenses that have been incurred, and other disbursements;— for the use of the Convention.

The following gentlemen were appointed a committee to carry into effect the foregoing resolution: Hon. Dorastus Wooster, Horatio Seymour, and Joel Doolittle.

On motion of Hon. D. Wooster,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to nominate four suitable persons, residents of the State of Vermont, to be recommended by this Convention to the Society, to be appointed additional agents, agreeably to a foregoing resolution of this Convention.

The following committee was accordingly appointed: Rev. Carlton Chase, Joshua Isham, and Dorastus Wooster.

On motion,

The Convention proceeded to the election of the standing committee for the year ensuing, when the following gentlemen were duly elected;

Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Joel Clap, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Sylvester Nash, and Rev. Samuel B. Shaw.

The following delegates were appointed to represent this Convention in the next General Convention:

Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Joel Clap, and Rev. Sylvester Nash, of the Clergy.

Hon. Dudley Chase, George Cleaveland, Alexander Fleming, Esqrs. and Mr. Cyrel Fuller, of the Laity.

The following gentlemen were appointed the Prudential Committee for the year ensuing: Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Joel Clap, and Hon. Jonathan H. Hubbard.

The Rev. Abraham Bronson was nominated as a Trustee of the General Theological Seminary.

Adjourned until 7 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Christ Church, Guilford.—Baptisms 9, two of which were Adults; Deaths 8; Marriages 15; Births 20; Families 92; Communicants, 6 added, 3 died, and 3 removed, present number 58.

The Sunday Schools have been organized this season under very favorable circumstances, and contain about the usual number of Scholars. A library has been commenced for their use, containing more than 100 volumes, and from which essential benefit has already been derived; and we believe that the temporal and spiritual condition of the parish was never more encouraging.

SAML. BRENTON SHAW, *Rector.*

Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.—Marriages 5; Deaths 3; Communicants 40; Sunday School Children 60.

Although the congregation has greatly increased, insomuch that the attention of the Vestry has been called to the subject of augmenting the accommodations of the church, yet it has been so ordered by Providence, that removals have diminished the number of our communicants. The Rector has for more than two years, devoted one evening in each week to the instruction of a class of females in the Sacred Scriptures. The effects have been highly beneficial. Our Sunday School is as flourishing as we have ever reported. The parish library, which was commenced a year since, consists now of one hundred and fifty choice volumes.

C. CHASE, *Rector.*

St. Paul's Church, Windsor.—Baptisms 15, 7 Adults, and 8 children; Sunday School Scholars 36; Marriages 3; Burial 1; Confirmations 8; and Communicants 28.

GEORGE LEONARD, *Rector.*

Christ Church, Bethel.—Baptisms 3; Marriages 3; Funerals 3; Communicants 88.

JOEL CLAP, *Rector.*

St. James' Church, Woodstock.—Baptisms, Adult 1, Infants 2; Communicants 24.

The Sunday School in this parish continues in a prosperous condition; and has realized the advantage of uninterrupted instruction through the winter. Its library consists of something more than an hundred well selected books, and has been found much more effectual in keeping up the interest of the scholars than the former system of graduated rewards.

JOEL CLAP, *Rector.*

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.—Communicants 46; Baptisms, Infants 3; Adults 2; Funerals 2; Marriage 1.

Rev. B. B. Smith, late Rector, removed to Philadelphia in the month of August. Since which time there has been none but occasional preaching.

J. DOOLITTLE, *Warden.*

Trinity Church, Shelburn.—Marriages 10; Baptisms 6; Funerals 10; Communicants 80.

The present condition of this parish furnishes nothing of peculiar interest.

Notwithstanding the removal of one family, and several deaths, the number of communicants is believed to be about the same, as reported at the last Convention.

LOUIS McDONALD, Rector.

Union Church, St. Albans. Communicants 38, (removed 3); Baptisms 5; Marriages 9; Funerals 5.

Service has been constant in this church during the past year. Of course the appointment at the corner of Fairfax has been given up as a regular Sabbath day appointment. A 5 o'clock service has been attended there, however, by the Rector, generally once in four weeks, at which full congregations have always been secured. The Sunday school is believed to be in a prosperous state.

All the other parishes in the county being now vacant, occasional services have been performed in some of them by the Rector; among which have been, of funerals, 1 in Swanton and 4 in Fairfield. Of marriages, 1 in Fairfield, 2 in Fairfax, and 1 in Cambridge.

S. NASH, Rector.

On motion,

Unanimously Resolved, That this Convention approve of the publication of the Episcopal Register, and recommend it to the patronage of the friends of the Church.

The committee appointed to nominate to this Convention four suitable persons to be recommended to the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," as additional Agents for the management of the lands belonging to said Society in this State, nominated the following gentlemen: Jonathan Hatch Hubbard, Jonathan Hagar, Dorastus Wooster, and Alexander Fleming; which nomination was unanimously approved of by the Convention.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Chase,

Unanimously Resolved, That this Convention recommend, and do hereby recommend to the "Society in England for the propagation of the gospel in foreign parts," the Hon. Jonathan Hatch Hubbard of Windsor in the county of Windsor, the Hon. Dorastus Wooster and Jonathan Hagar, Esq. of Middlebury in the county of Addison, and Alexander Fleming, Esq. of Rockingham in the county of Windham, as suitable persons to be added to the present board of Agents, as attorneys, to whose management are entrusted the Society's lands in this State.

Resolved, That in case either of the above named gentlemen shall decline this nomination and recommendation, the Standing Committee of this Convention be and hereby are directed to name and recommend a substitute as soon as may be.

On motion,

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of this Convention be held in St. Paul's Church, Windsor.

The Rev. Louis McDonald was appointed to preach before the next Convention, and the Rev. Samuel B. Shaw was appointed his substitute.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Chase,

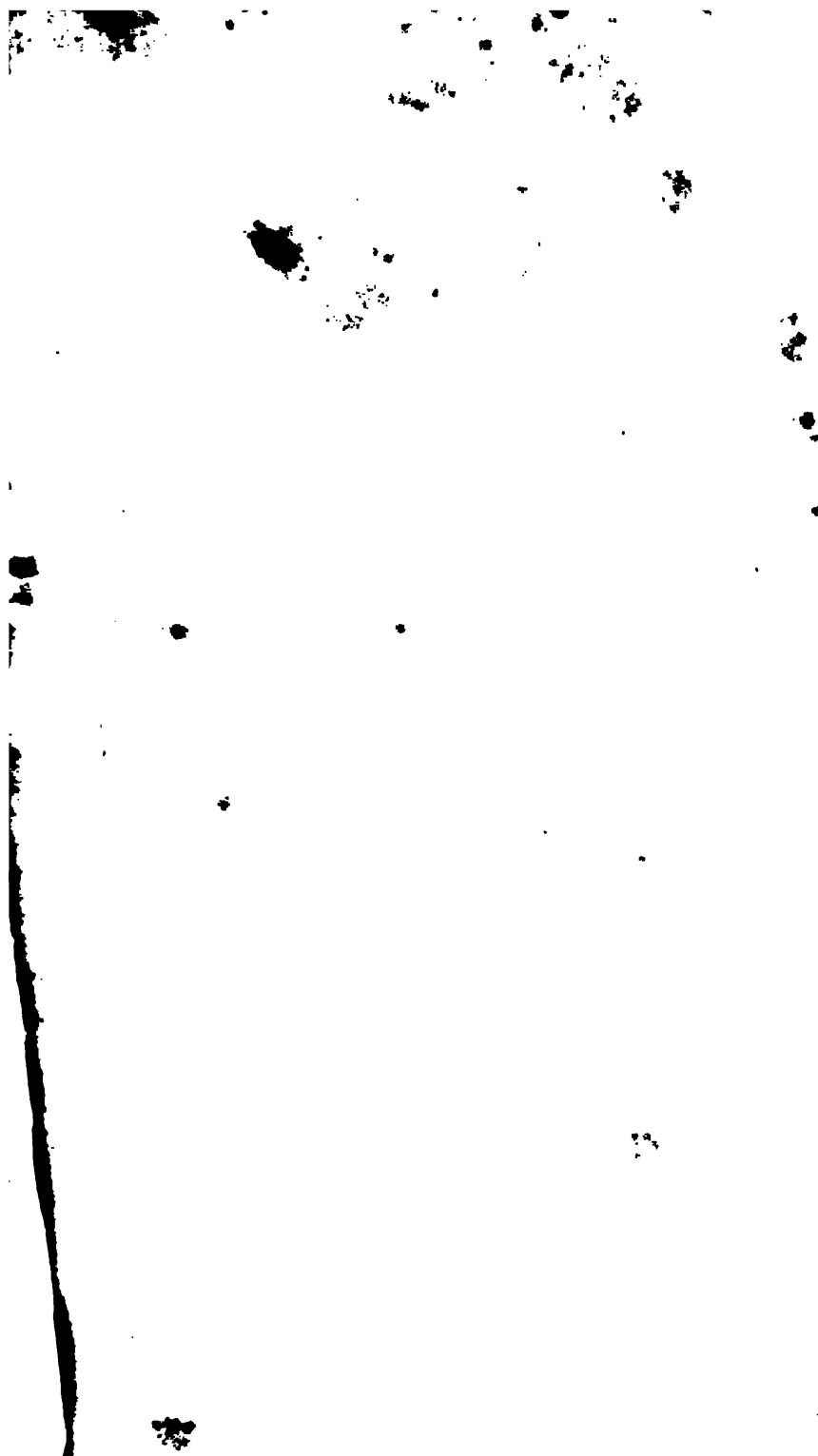
Resolved, That the President be, and he hereby is, directed to draw an order upon the Treasurer of the Contingent Fund for the sum of five dollars and twenty-five cents, to be paid over to the Secretary of the General Convention for the benefit of the Contingent Fund of that body.

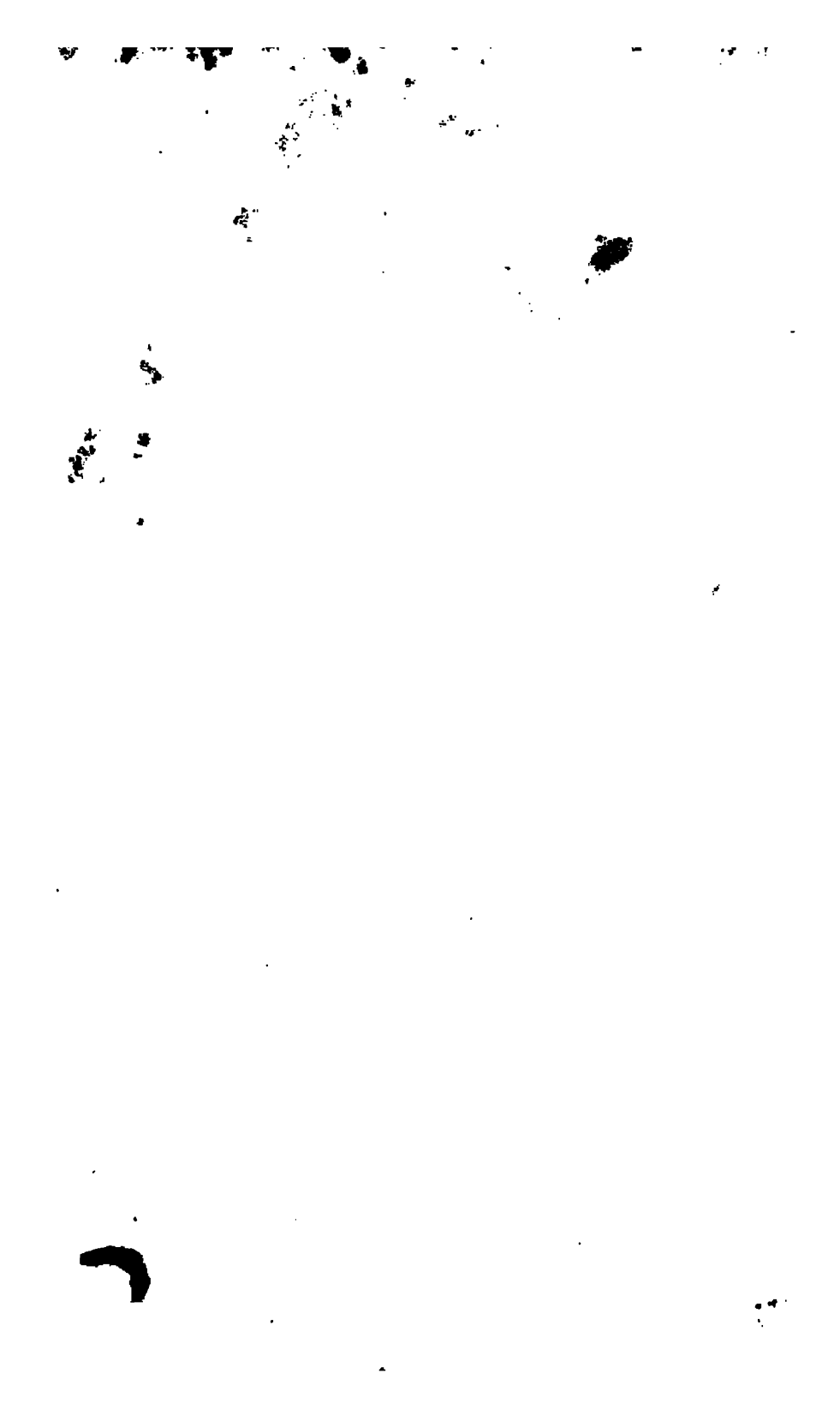
Adjourned without day.

A true record—Attest,

JOEL CLAP, *Secretary*.

The Treasurer of the Contingent Fund acknowledges the receipt of \$6.00 from Union Church, St. Albans, subsequent to the rising of the Convention.





JOURNAL

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

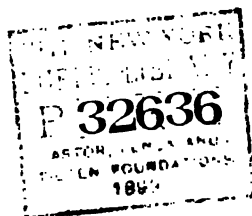
OF

THE CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH**IN THE STATE OF VERMONT,****HELD IN ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, WINDSOR,**

ON

THE 26TH AND 27TH DAYS OF MAY, 1830.

WOODSTOCK:
PRINTED BY DAVID WATSON.
1830.



JOURNAL.

Wednesday, May 26, 1830.

This being the day appointed for the annual meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Vermont, a number of the Clergy, and Lay Delegates from several of the Churches, assembled in St. Paul's Church, Windsor, at 9 o'clock, A. M. the Rev. Abraham Bronson in the chair.

PRESENT.

- REV. ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Rector of Zion Church, Manchester.*
REV. CARLTON CHASE, *Rector of Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.*
IV. JOEL CLAP, *Rector of Christ Church, Bethel, and St. James' Church, Woodstock.*
V. ANSON B. HARD, *Deacon, Minister of Trinity Church, Fairfield, and Grace Church, Sheldon.*
VI. WILLIAM HORTON, *Officiating at St. Paul's Church, Windsor.*
LOUIS McDONALD, *Rector of Trinity Church, Shelburn.*
SYLVESTER NASH, *Rector of Union Church, St. Albans.*
WILLIAM S. PERKINS, *Deacon, Minister of St. James' Church, Arlington.*
SAMUEL B. SHAW, *Rector of Christ Church, Guilford.*
The following gentlemen appeared, presented their credentials and took their seats as Lay Delegates:
MAN PURDY, }
LIAM BENEDICK, } *from Zion Church, Manchester.*
JEL FITCH, " *Trinity Church, Pawlet.*
IN HOPSON, " *St. Paul's Church, Wells.*

AMON BAILY, }
 GERSHOM GIFFORD, } from *St. John's Church, Poultney.*
 ENOS CANFIELD, " *St. James' Church, Arlington.*
 LUTHER GROVER, }
 OLIVER GLEASON, } " *Christ Church, Bethel.*
 JOHN A. PRATT, " *St. James' Church, Woodstock.*
 EDWARD R. CAMPBELL, }
 SIMEON IDE, } " *St. Paul's Church, Windsor.*

Rev. Abraham Bronson was chosen President; and Rev. Joel Clap, Secretary.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That the President be, and he hereby is, authorized to invite Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and candidates for holy orders in the same, who may be present, to the sittings of the Convention:

The following Clergymen were invited by the President to the sittings of the Convention.

Rev. Moore Bingham, of the Diocese of New-York, and Rev. Benjamin Hale, of the State of New-Hampshire.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That hereafter it shall be considered the duty of the Standing Committee to make report of its proceedings annually to this Convention; which Report shall be entered on the Journals.

The following Report of the Standing Committee was presented and read:

"At a regular meeting of the Standing Committee of Vermont, holden at Middlebury, on the 22d day of October, A.D. 1829, present, Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Joel Clap, Rev. Carlton Chase and Rev. Sylvester Nash.

"The Rev. Abraham Bronson was chosen President, and Rev. Joel Clap, Secretary.

"The Standing Committee having been informed that Alexander Fleming, Esq. has declined accepting the nomination, made by the stal Convention in this State, as an Agent of the

Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, the Rev. Carlton Chase, Rector of Immanuel Church, Bel-lows Falls, was appointed to supply the vacancy.

"George C. N. Eastman was recommended a candidate for Holy Orders.

"A true copy of the minutes of the proceedings of the Standing Committee, for the year past.

"*Attest,* **JOEL CLAP, Secretary.**"

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to examine the Canons of the General Convention, with a view to ascertain whether there are any matters left by those Canons to be provided for by the State Convention, and as yet remaining unprovided for by this Convention; and that said Committee report to this Convention.

The following Committee was accordingly appointed; Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Joel Clap, Edward R. Campbell, Esq.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Nash, the Convention proceeded to the election of the Standing Committee for the year ensuing.

The following persons were elected:

Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Joel Clap, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Sylvester Nash, Rev. Samuel B. Shaw.

The business of the Convention was suspended for the purpose of attending divine service.

Morning Prayers were read by Rev. Samuel B. Shaw, and a Sermon delivered by Rev. Louis McDonald.

The Holy Communion was then administered, after which the Convention resumed business, and adjourned until 3 o'clock, this afternoon.

3 o'clock, P. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

The Treasurer of the Contingent Fund presented the following Report, which was read and accepted:

AMON BAILY, }
 GERSHOM GIFFORD, } *from St. John's Church, Poulinney.*
 ENOS CANFIELD, " *St. James' Church, Arlington.*
 LUTHER GROVER, }
 OLIVER GLEASON, } " *Christ Church, Bethel.*
 JOHN A. PRATT, " *St. James' Church, Woodstock.*
 EDWARD R. CAMPBELL, }
 SIMEON IDE, } " *St. Paul's Church, Windsor.*

Rev. Abraham Bronson was chosen President; and Rev. Joel Clap, Secretary.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That the President be, and he hereby is, authorized to invite Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and candidates for holy orders in the same, who may be present, to the sittings of the Convention:

The following Clergymen were invited by the President to the sittings of the Convention.

Rev. Moore Bingham, of the Diocese of New-York, and Rev. Benjamin Hale, of the State of New-Hampshire.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That hereafter it shall be considered the duty of the Standing Committee to make report of its proceedings annually to this Convention; which Report shall be entered on the Journals.

The following Report of the Standing Committee was presented and read:

"At a regular meeting of the Standing Committee of Vermont, holden at Middlebury, on the 22d day of October, A.D. 1829, present, Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Joel Clap, Rev. Carlton Chase and Rev. Sylvester Nash.

"The Rev. Abraham Bronson was chosen President, and Rev. Joel Clap, Secretary.

"The Standing Committee having been informed that Alexander Fleming, Esq. has declined accepting the nomination, made by the stal Convention in this State, as an Agent of the

Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, the Rev. Carlton Chase, Rector of Immanuel Church, Bel-lows Falls, was appointed to supply the vacancy.

"George C. N. Eastman was recommended a candidate for Holy Orders.

"A true copy of the minutes of the proceedings of the Standing Committee, for the year past.

"*Attest,* JOEL CLAP, *Secretary.*"

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to examine the Canons of the General Convention, with a view to ascertain whether there are any matters left by those Canons to be provided for by the State Convention, and as yet remaining unprovided for by this Convention; and that said Committee report to this Convention.

The following Committee was accordingly appointed, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Joel Clap, Edward R. Campbell, Esq.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Nash, the Convention proceeded to the election of the Standing Committee for the year ensuing.

The following persons were elected:

Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Joel Clap, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Sylvester Nash, Rev. Samuel B. Shaw.

The business of the Convention was suspended for the purpose of attending divine service.

Morning Prayers were read by Rev. Samuel B. Shaw, and a Sermon delivered by Rev. Louis McDonald.

The Holy Communion was then administered, after which the Convention resumed business, and adjourned until 3 o'clock, this afternoon.

3 o'clock, P. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

The Treasurer of the Contingent Fund presented the following Report, which was read and accepted:

The following persons were elected Delegates to the General Convention: Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Joel Clap, and Rev. Sylvester Nash, of the Clergy. Hon. Dudley Chase, George Cleaveland, Alexander Fleming, Esqrs. and Mr. Cyril Fuller, of the Laity.

The following Parochial Reports were presented and read:

Zion Church, Manchester.—Baptisms, Adults 5, Children 3. Marriages 5. Funerals 7. Communicants 42.

The Sunday School and the state of piety have considerably improved within the past year.

ATTEST,

ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Rector.*

St. James' Church, Arlington.—The present report embraces a period of only six months, the time of the present minister's connexion with the Church. The number of communicants is not as large as in former years, owing to deaths and removals. It is now 83. Additions 2. Baptisms 4. 1 Marriage. Deaths 2.

The temporal prospects of the Parish were never more encouraging. To use the language of a member of the Parish, "Every thing to which we put our hands, connected with the well being of the Church, prospers." The church is rapidly building, and though it is of stone, and entirely gothic, we anticipate finishing it in less than a year. For commodiousness and beauty it will not be exceeded by any in the State. We regret to say that the religious condition of the Parish is not equally flattering. We are not, however, without some encouragement in this respect. A convenient lecture room, in which we now assemble, is crowded every Sabbath. The congregation listen to the preaching of the word with apparent seriousness. Besides the regular services on the Sabbath, we have had a Bible Class on Sabbath evenings, consisting of 35 members. The funds of our Missionary Society have been (during the last year) appropriated to the support of a young man at Kenyon College. Sunday Scholars, 70. The Minister has held meetings in different parts of the Parish, and is encouraged to continue this practice by the serious attention of the people.

W. S. PERKINS, *Minister.*

St. John's Church, Poulney.—Baptisms, Adults 8, Infants 2, Total 10. Funerals 5. Removals 7, or three families comprising seven members of the congregation. Communicants, added 17, total 20. Sunday Scholars, 16.

This Church, during the past year, has sustained a great loss in the death of its Senior Warden and the removal of several families: but has otherwise been greatly blessed and prospered.

It has a Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, a Bible and Common Prayer Book and Tract Society; as also a Sunday School Society, all auxiliary to the general institutions of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

A place of worship is much needed, and the Parish have determined to make an effort to erect a small brick church the ensuing year.

It hardly need be said that this small and feeble Parish needs some assistance, if assistance can be had.

MOORE BINGHAM.

Trinity Church, Shelburn.—The state of this Parish is disheartening, and the Rector is compelled to express his belief that it is not as prosperous as at the last meeting of this Convention.

Baptisms, Adult 2, Infant 2, Confirmed 4, Married 1, Funerals 2.
Communicants 70. LOUIS McDONALD, Rector.

Union Church, St. Albans.—The members of this parish continue to struggle with commendable zeal against the difficulties arising from the smallness of their numbers, and, in addition to former efforts, have, since the last Convention, purchased a house and lot for a parsonage, and are now exerting themselves to put it in a better state of repair.

A prayer meeting has been commenced under very promising circumstances, which is well attended every Sunday evening, and generally conducted by the Laity, as the Rector is often absent to attend a third service at the corner of Fairfax. The Sunday School is in a flourishing condition.

Communicants, 45. Baptisms, Adults 3, Children 6. Confirmations, 9. Funerals, 5. Marriages, 2. S. NASH, Rector.

Trinity Church, Fairfield, and Grace Church, Sheldon.—The present Minister of these churches took charge of them last July. They were then in a languid condition, not having had a clergyman for some months previous. His prospects at first were discouraging, but by the Divine blessing upon his labours, a great improvement immediately took place. In Trinity Church there have been 23 Baptisms, 3 Marriages, 8 Funerals. Sunday School Scholars, 80. Communicants, 80. Additions to the number of communicants, 80. A Parish and Sunday School Library has been established. Exertions are now making to increase the number of books. In Grace Church, there have been 26 Baptisms, 2 Marriages, 6 Funerals. Sunday School Scholars, 40. Members of the Bible Class, 20. Communicants, 53. Additions, 10. The Female Missionary Society of these churches is prepared to constitute their pastor a life member of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society. The ladies have also made a box of clothing for the family of our Missionary to Greece, the Rev. Mr. Robertson. The Minister attributes much of his gratifying success to frequent lectures, and prayer meetings, which he has held in various parts of his parish. He has also, in company with Rev. Mr. Nash, performed service, and preached in the neighboring towns. A church will probably soon be erected in Highgate.

ANSON B. HARD, Minister.

Christ Church, Bethel.—Baptisms, Infants, 3. Marriage 1. Funerals 4. Communicants 88. The prospects of our Sunday School are more encouraging, the influence of its library is very salutary, and its members are increasing.

A Missionary Association, auxiliary to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society was organized in the winter, and measures are taken to solicit aid from every member of the Parish, and thus far a very general interest in the Society has been sustained. JOEL CLAP, Rector.

St. James' Church, Woodstock.—Baptisms, Adults 2, Infants 2. Marriages 3. Funerals 2. Communicants 25.

The condition of this Parish is assuming a more permanent aspect; measures are in progress, which will probably result in the entire devotion of the labours of the Rector to this Church.

JOEL CLAP, Rector.

St. Paul's Church, Windsor.—Funerals 2. Baptisms 0. Marriages 2. Sabbath Scholars 54. Sabbath School Library, 95 volumes.

Bible Class consists of 40 members. Eight have been added to the

church. Three received from other churches. Since the commencement of the Bible Class, there has been an increasing attention to the subject of religion.

WILLIAM HORTON.

Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.—Baptisms 8, 1 Adult. Marriages 5. Deaths 2. Communicants 50. Parish Library, 165 volumes, nearly all selected works. Provision is made for adding to it about twenty-five dollars a year. In the Sunday School about 60 Scholars, with a Library of two hundred volumes. The Rector has a Bible Class, which has been attended with good effects.

CARLTON CHASE, *Rector.*

Christ Church, Guilford.—Baptisms 9. Marriages 13. Deaths 3. Communicants 58. Families attending church, in both congregations, not far from 100. Sunday Scholars in do. about 80. During the past year a fine toned bell has been added to the church in the East parish, and the edifice in the West parish has been repaired. An unusual attention to religious subjects exists in the latter parish, from which, with the Divine blessing, we are encouraged to anticipate the most pleasing results. A Sunday School Society, auxiliary to the union of our church, has been formed, which promises greater efficiency in promoting the moral and religious instruction of the young. On the whole, the Rector has abundant cause for gratitude, and encouragement that notwithstanding many difficulties, the prospects of this portion of the Zion of our God are more encouraging than at any former period of his connexion with it.

SAML. BRENTON SHAW, *Rector.*

On motion by Rev. Mr. Hard,

Resolved, That the next annual Convention be held in St. James' Church, Arlington.

Rev. William Horton was appointed to preach before the next Convention, and Rev. Sylvester Nash appointed his substitute.

On motion, Convention adjourned until 6 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, May 27, 6 o'clock, A. M.

Convention met according to adjournment.

Rev. Mr. Chase, on behalf of the Committee appointed yesterday to examine the Canons, made a verbal report; whereupon it was

Resolved, That the subject be recommitted to the same Committee, to report to the next Convention.

After prayers by the President, adjourned without day.

A true record—Attest,

JOEL CLAP, *Secretary.*

ERRATUM.—Page 3, after *Rev. William Horton*, insert *Deacon.*

CONSTITUTION

OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE STATE OF VERMONT,
AS REVISED AND ADOPTED IN CONVENTION,
A. D. 1820, 1824, & 1827.

ARTICLE I.—The various Churches in Vermont shall be considered as united in one Convention, in subordination to the General Convention of the United States.

ART. II.—The said Convention shall meet annually on the last Wednesday in May, at such place as shall be appointed at a previous meeting; and all the Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, residing in this State, shall be entitled to seats in this Convention; and Lay Delegates from the several churches in this State, shall be entitled to seats in the said Convention in the following proportion, viz. each church shall have the privilege of sending at least one member; if it consists of 10 or more communicants, it may send two members; and for every 25 communicants exceeding the number above specified, the said churches shall be entitled to one additional member.

ART. III.—The Convention shall deliberate and act in one body; but shall vote in distinct orders, when any member shall call for such a division on any one question; and in such case a concurrence of a majority of both orders shall be necessary to constitute a vote.

ART. IV.—A President, Secretary, and Standing Committee shall be chosen at every annual meeting of the Convention; also the requisite Delegation shall be annually appointed to represent this State in the General Convention.

Provided however, That no person shall be a member of the Standing Committee, or shall represent this State in the General Convention, unless he be a regular communicant in the church. *Provided also,* That when the Bishop of the diocese shall be present in Convention, he shall, *ex officio*, be President.

The Convention may from time to time, if deemed expedient, appoint a Prudential Committee to superintend the prudential concerns of the church.

ART. V.—If at any time a Bishop is to be elected by this Convention, the Secretary, by order of the President or Standing Committee, shall write to the Minister or one of the Wardens of each church, at least six weeks before the election is to take place, and give notice of the time and place appointed for such election, and request that delegates may attend the Convention for the purpose; and in every

such election, the Convention shall vote in distinct orders—the Clerical order shall make a nomination by ballot, and a majority of the Lay Delegates shall approve the appointment, before the person shall be considered elected.

- ART. VI.—No alteration shall be made in this Constitution except in annual Convention; nor unless proposed and reduced to writing at a previous Convention.

ART. VII.—The Bishop or Standing Committee shall have power to call a special Convention, by giving six weeks previous notice to the Minister or one of the Wardens of each particular Church.

CANONS OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE STATE OF VERMONT, ADOPTED IN CONVENTION AT MIDDLEBURY, JUNE 24, 1823.

Canon I.—*Of the mode of trying Clergymen accused of misdemeanor.*

Whenever the Standing Committee shall have reason to suspect any Clergyman of this Church to be guilty of infidelity, heresy, vice, or irregularity of any kind, it shall be their duty to inquire into the circumstances of the case; and if, upon such inquiry, they are convinced that there exists sufficient cause of complaint, they shall represent the same to the Bishop, at the same time stating specifically whereof the party is accused; whereupon, by order of the Bishop, a council of Presbyters, consisting of not less than three, shall be convened, who, under the direction of the Bishop, shall proceed in due time to try the party accused; a copy of the accusation or accusations, and twenty days notice of the time and place of trial being first communicated to such party. And furthermore, it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee, at such trial, to lay before the Bishop and his Presbyters, such evidence as they may be able to obtain relative to the case under investigation.

Canon II.—*Of the forming and organizing of Churches.*

Whenever any number of persons in this State shall form themselves into a regular society of the Protestant Episcopal faith, in such a manner as that they will become a body corporate according to law, and their proceedings shall be sanctioned by the Bishop of the diocese and Standing Committee of this State; or in case of a vacancy in the episcopal office, by the State Convention or its Standing Committee, they shall be admitted to all the rights and privileges of a regular church, subject at all times to the authority and discipline of said Bishop, or in case of a vacancy in the episcopal office, of said Convention or its Standing Committee.

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JOURNAL
OF
THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
CONVENTION
OF THE
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN THE STATE OF VERMONT,
HOLDEN BY ADJOURNMENT,
IN ST. JAMES' CHURCH, ARLINGTON,
ON THE 31ST DAY OF AUGUST AND THE 1ST DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1831.

WOODSTOCK:
PRINTED BY DAVID WATSON.
1831.

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JOURNAL,



Arlington, 25th May, 1831.

The Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Vermont was opened according to appointment.—Sylvester Deming was appointed President, and Enos Canfield, Secretary pro tempore. The Convention was then adjourned to meet at this place on the last Wednesday in August next.

Attest,

ENOS CANFIELD,
Secretary pro tem.



Arlington, August 31, 1831.

The Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Vermont, met according to adjournment in the Vestry Room of St. James' Church, Arlington, on Wednesday, August 31, 1831, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

PRESENT.

The Right Rev. ALEXANDER V. GRISWOLD, D. D. *President ex officio.*

REV. ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Rector of Zion Church, Manchester.*

REV. CARLTON CHASE, *Rector of Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.*

REV. JOEL CLAP, *Rector of St. James' Church, Woodstock.*

REV. SILAS A. CRANE, *Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.*

REV. WILLIAM HORTON, *Minister of St. Paul's Church, Windsor.*

REV. LOUIS McDONALD, *Rector of Trinity Church, Shelburn.*

Rev. WILLIAM S. PERKINS, *Deacon, Minister of St. James' Church, Arlington.*

Rev. JAMES SABINE, *Rector of Christ Church, Bethel.*

Rev. Joel Clap was appointed Secretary.

The following gentlemen presented their credentials, and took their seats as Lay Delegates:

SYLVESTER DEMING,	}	<i>from St. James' Church, Arlington.</i>
SAMUEL S. BAKER,		
SIMEON COLE,		
ENOS CANFIELD,		
CYREL FULLER,	}	<i>Zion Church, Manchester.</i>
DAVID DYER,		
JOHN C. ROBERTS,		
DANIEL FITCH,	}	<i>Trinity Church, Pawlet.</i>
ASHBEL HOLLISTER,		
AMON BAILEY,	}	<i>St. John's Church, Poultney.</i>
TIMOTHY MARSHALL,		
PORTER HOWE, "		<i>St. John's Church, Rutland.</i>
DORASTUS WOOSTER,	}	<i>St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.</i>
GEORGE CLEAVELAND,		
JOHN RICHARDSON, "		<i>Union Church, St. Albans.</i>
OLIVER GLEASON, "		<i>Christ Church, Bethel.</i>
EDWARD HOUGHTON, Jr.		<i>Christ Church, Guilford.</i>
JOHN C. HOPSON,	}	<i>St. Paul's Church, Wells.</i>
DAVID LEWIS,		

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That the President be, and hereby is, requested to invite Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and candidates for holy orders in the same, who may be in town during the session of this Convention, to honorary seats in the same.

The following Clergymen appeared and took their seats in pursuance of the provision of the foregoing resolution:

Rev. William H. Mitchell, of South-Carolina, Rev.

Phineas L. Whipple, Rev. Moore Bingham, and Rev. Alva Bennet, of New-York; Rev. Samuel B. Shaw, Rev. Silas Blaisdell, of Massachusetts, Rev. Edward Ballard, of New-Hampshire.

The following communication from the Secretary of the Convention of Massachusetts was read, and referred to a Committee, consisting of the following gentlemen: Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Carlton Chase, and Hon. Dorastus Wooster, to report thereon to this Convention.

Cambridge, June 25, 1831.

To the Standing Committee of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Vermont.

Gentlemen,

At the last Convention of our Church, in the State of Massachusetts, the following report of a Committee for the purpose therein named, was accepted by nearly a unanimous vote:

"The Committee, appointed to consider the propriety and expediency of erecting Massachusetts into a separate Diocese, and if practicable, the means of accomplishing it, respectfully report:—

That if such an arrangement can be effected, with the concurrence and approbation of the other States, with which it is now connected, and the Episcopal jurisdiction of the Right Rev. Bishop Griswold be retained, it is in the highest degree expedient and desirable, not only as respects Massachusetts, but likewise for the sister States of the Eastern Diocese; the prosperity of the Church in each depending mainly, under God, on the constant oversight and frequent visitations of its spiritual father.

As to the means:—The Committee recommend, that the Secretary of this Convention be instructed to communicate this report to the several Standing Committees of Rhode-Island, Vermont, New-Hampshire, and Maine, earnestly and affectionately commending the proposition to their consideration and earliest attention.

E. A. NEWTON, *Chairman.*"

Allow me now, in obedience to my directions, earnestly and affectionately to request your attention, at as early a date as possible, to the proposed withdrawal of Massachusetts from the Eastern Diocese; and that you will take such measures to forward the end desired by our Convention, as will accomplish it in the shortest time, consistent with safety, propriety, and the dictates of Christian courtesy and duty.

Very respectfully, &c.

T. W. COIT,

Secretary of Conv. of Mass.

*To the S. C. of the P. E. Ch. }
in the State of Vermont. }*

The following report of the Prudential Committee was presented, read and accepted:

Report of the Prudential Committee.

TO THE CONVENTION OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE STATE OF VERMONT, ASSEMBLED AT ARLINGTON, AUGUST 31, 1831.

The Prudential Committee in presenting their annual report, beg leave to state—

That judging by information, received from authentic sources, and by measures in which they have borne a part, they feel justified in expressing the opinion, that the long series of difficulties, which the church has had to encounter, beyond all possibility of prevention or foresight, in maintaining its just rights of property in this State, are about drawing to a happy close. Judgments have been rendered in favor of the Society in all cases hitherto carried into Court. Hence if we consider the course, which has been pursued, and the nature of the cases presented for adjudication, there would seem to remain no debateable questions.

Sometime last spring, the General Agents directed their Attorney to bring suits in all cases, where towns or individuals refused to surrender the lands of the Society. But being unable to procure the necessary information concerning the situation of the lands in season for the May term of the Court, the Attorney states that no suits have yet been commenced. Some surrendries have been obtained, and some leases effected since the last report; though the Committee are not able to say to what extent. There is reason to expect, that the business will now be pushed with all convenient despatch; more especially, if the Agents shall be successful in obtaining the aid, which they hope, of the gentlemen who have been nominated and recommended to the Venerable Society to be added to the present body of Agents. The united wishes of the Agents and of the Convention on this point have been carried towards effect, so far as depended on measures to be taken here.

The following were the persons nominated and recommended by the Convention, with the concurrence of the Agents: to wit. Hon. Jonathan H. Hubbard, Hon. Dorastus Wooster, Jonathan Hagar, Esq. and the Rev. Carlton Chase.

Documents, supposed to be sufficient to sustain these nominations—also to obtain some advantageous and necessary modifications of the original power of Attorney, were about one year since prepared by the Prudential Committee in connexion with the Agents.

Early in October, these, in a completed state, were put into the hands of George Atkinson, Esq. of the City of London, then and now in this country, and by him were transmitted immediately to his correspondent in London. They were duly received and an assurance returned, that they should be laid before the Directors of the Society at the very first opening presented by their forms of business. And Mr. Atkinson has no doubt, that an answer will be obtained and returned as soon as those forms will possibly admit.—It is indeed expected daily.

Respecting the state of the treasury and the Treasurer's books, and the income of lands already secured and leased, the Committee are not prepared to make statements. If an apology is needed, it may be found in the discouraging difficulties, which have heretofore lain in the way of this part of the duty assigned them by the Convention—added to the consideration of their residing at a great distance from the seat of the Agency business.

CARLTON CHASE,

for the Committee.

The following gentlemen were appointed the Prudential Committee for the year ensuing: Rev. Carlton Chase, Edward R. Campbell, Rev. Joel Clap, John A. Pratt.

On motion, proceeded to the election of the Standing Committee for the present year, when the following gentlemen were chosen: Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Joel Clap, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Sylvester Nash, Rev. Silas A. Crane.

The Committee appointed by the last Convention to examine the Canons of the Church, and report whether any, and if any what further Canons are necessary to be adopted by this Convention, submitted a report, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The business of the Convention was then suspended for the purpose of attending divine service, to be resumed immediately after divine service in St. James' Church.

St. James' Church was then consecrated by the Right Rev. Bishop Griswold.

Morning Prayer was read by Rev. Mr. Ballard, and *the Sermon delivered by the Right Rev. Bishop.* After

which the business of the Convention was resumed, and adjourned to meet in the Vestry Room of St. James' Church, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

2 o'clock, P. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment, and adjourned for the purpose of attending divine service.

Evening Prayer was read by Rev. Mr. Mitchell, and a Sermon delivered by the Right Rev. Bishop. After which the Convention met according to adjournment.

The following Report of the Standing Committee was presented and read:

Report of the Standing Committee.

At a regular meeting at which all the members were present, holden at Windsor, on the 26th day of May, 1830, Rev. A. Bronson was appointed President, and Rev. Joel Clap, Secretary.

On the 27th day of May, present, as on the day previous, the requisite testimonial in favor of Rev. William Horton, Deacon, recommending him to the Bishop, for Priest's Order, was executed.

At a regular meeting holden at Middlebury, on the 7th day of July, 1830, Present, Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Joel Clap, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Sylvester Nash. The requisite testimonial in favor of the consecration of the Rev. William Murray Stone, Bishop elect of the Diocese of Maryland, was duly executed.

At a regular meeting holden at Perkinsville in Weathersfield, on the 1st day of November, 1830, Present, Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Joel Clap, Rev. Carlton Chase, the requisite testimonial in favor of the consecration of the Rev. Benjamin Tredwell Onderdonk, Bishop elect of the Diocese of New York, was duly executed.

On the 23d day of August, 1831, the requisite testimonial in favor of Rev. Silas A. Crane, Deacon, recommending him to the Bishop, for Priest's Order, was executed.

JOEL CLAP, *Secretary.*

The Committee to whom was referred the communication from the Secretary of the Convention of Massachusetts, submitted the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Convention fully concur with the Convention of Massachusetts, in the conviction, that it is expedient, and desirable, that, as soon as circumstances permit, arrangements be made for dividing the Eastern Diocese into smaller Episcopal jurisdictions.

Resolved also, That this Convention cannot contemplate without the most sensible pain, any measures, whose effect *may* be to deprive the Church in Vermont, of the Episcopal services of her present excellent and greatly beloved Bishop,—and that nothing would induce this Convention to consent to such measures but a belief that the prosperity of the Churches requires them.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Clap, the report of the Committee upon the Canons was taken up, whereupon the following Canons as reported by said Committee were adopted:

Canon III.

OF THE TRIAL OF PERSONS REPELLED FROM THE COMMUNION.

In case any member of this Church, repelled from the Holy Communion, shall make complaint to the Bishop, and demand a trial according to the third Canon of the General Convention of 1817, the Bishop with two presbyters of this Diocese shall proceed with all reasonable despatch to investigate the facts, in the parish where the complaining party resides; thirty days notice being given to said party and also to the repelling Minister. And the Bishop with advice of his presbyters shall affirm or reverse the repulsion, or proceed to severer measures, even to the excommunication of the party tried, as in their judgment the facts shall require. Or the Bishop may direct any three presbyters of the Diocese to hold such investigation, who shall report the facts to him, with their opinion of the award which the facts require. And the Bishop, if he approve, shall pronounce judgment accordingly.

Canon IV.

CONCERNING COUNCILS IN CASE OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MINISTERS AND THEIR CONGREGATIONS.

It is hereby ordered that every Council called by the Bishop, or Convention or Standing Committee, for the settlement of differences between ministers and their congregations, shall consist of the Bishop and at least *three presbyters*, or, in the absence of the

Bishop, of at least five presbyters, who shall make report to the Bishop. And in all cases the parties concerned shall have twelve days notice of the time and place of holding the Council.

[See Canon 32, of General Convention.]

On motion by Rev. Mr. Crane,

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Convention be, and hereby is, directed to make application to the next Diocesan Convention and to the several State Conventions in the Eastern Diocese for permission to erect this State into a separate Diocese, as soon as such separation can regularly be effected.

The following Parochial Reports were presented and read:

Trinity Church, Pawlet.—Communicants 26. Confirmations 3.
DANIEL FITCH, *Senior Warden*.

St. John's Church, Poultney.—Communicants 40, added 9. Baptisms 14, Adults 8, Infants 6. Marriage 1. Funerals 2. Confirmations 29; a part of which number is of persons belonging to the parish of St. John's, in Rutland. Sunday Scholars 25.

The new Church is in progress, and will probably be finished in six or eight weeks.

The associations in the parish are a Bible, Prayer Book, Tract, Sunday School and Missionary Associations; also a Female Circle of Industry, for charitable purposes.

The circumstances and prospects of the parish may gratefully be represented as prosperous.

MOORE BINGHAM, *Rector*.

St. John's Church, Rutland.—Communicants, the number not known, but probably 10 or 12.

This parish has been a long time destitute of a Clergyman; but it is thought that they would have no difficulty in employing a Clergyman one half of the time, and joined with Castleton or some other town might doubtless support one for the whole time.

There are at this time in it several candidates for Baptism, Confirmation and the Lord's Supper; and the subscriber has no doubt that, with some reasonable share of assistance, this parish might soon be revived and greatly enlarged.

MOORE BINGHAM, *Visiting Minister*.

St. Paul's Church, Wells.—Communicants 20. Baptisms 3.—Confirmations 3.

This parish at present is under the charge of Rev. Mr. Bennet, in connection with the Church in Granville; yet we hold our parish meeting separately, and have our share of preaching, which at present amounts to one fourth of the time.

DAVID LEWIS, {
JOHN C. HOPSON, { *Wardens*.

St. James' Church, Arlington.—Baptisms 18, 10 Adults. Marriages 3. Deaths 4. Communicants 112. Added 29. Confirmed 37.

The Minister of this parish can say with thankfulness to the Giver of all good that it has never been in a more interesting condition either temporally, or spiritually, than it is at present. The Church, the corner stone of which was laid by our Bishop eighteen months ago, is now completed and consecrated. In every respect it fully satisfies the feelings of its builders. Its cost, exclusive of labor done by the parishioners themselves, of which no account has been taken, is estimated at ten thousand dollars, the whole of which is paid by the parish.

W. S. PERKINS, Minister.

Zion Church, Manchester.—The divine goodness has been unusually manifested in the advancement of piety in this parish for a few months past. There have been considerable additions to the Communion; and the work of grace appears to be still going on among the people.

Seventeen persons have recently been confirmed in this Church, and 7 belonging here have been confirmed to-day in Arlington.

Baptisms, Adults 18. Marriages 2. Funerals 4. Communicants 54.

ABRAHAM BRONSON, Rector.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.—Baptisms, Infants 2, Adults 3. Communicants, added 8, present number 44. Confirmations 9. Marriages 8. Funerals 10. Sunday School 60. Collection on Easter Sunday, for the Diocesan Missionary fund, \$10.50. One Bible, and one Missionary Society. This report embraces only a period of about ten months, the time of the present Rector's connexion with the Society. During this period the Sunday School has been organized; and a library of 130 volumes collected. This Church has had many difficulties to encounter; but it is hoped they are now principally removed.—Apparently it is in a prosperous state, and the congregation is increasing. With gratitude to the great Head of the Church for the success that has already attended his labors, the Rector hopes that he shall continue to be prospered in his exertions to promote pure and undefiled religion in this branch of our Zion.

S. A. CRANE, Rector.

Trinity Church, Shelburne.—The state of this parish is more prosperous than at the meeting of the last Convention.

Baptisms, Infants 4, Adults 3. Confirmed 5. Marriages 6.—Funerals 11. Communicants 70.

LOUIS McDONALD, Rector.

Union Church, St. Albans.—Baptisms, Adults 10, Infants 7. Confirmations 24. Funerals 3. Marriages 5. Communicants 50.

SYLVESTER NASH, Rector.

Trinity Church, Fairfield, and Grace Church, Sheldon.—The prospects of these parishes have never at any former period been more encouraging, than within the year past. In Trinity Church there have been 19 Baptisms, 9 Funerals. Sunday School Scholars 75. Communicants 90. Additions to the number of communicants 16. In Grace Church, Sheldon, there have been 35 Baptisms, 3 Funerals, Sunday School Scholars, 40. Communicants, 78. Additions, 25. During the year, between the services on the sabbath, a Bible class has been attended, which has been much met, nearly

every member of which is now hopefully pious. The ladies of these parishes by the payment of \$30 have constituted their pastor a life member of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society.—Auxiliary to this society, Associations have been formed in both parishes, with which most of the children, as well as communicants, are connected. The increase and prosperity of the parishes is unquestionably identified with the increase of a missionary spirit.—If this spirit is cherished, the parishes will grow and prosper, whatever obstacle may oppose. But if the claims of domestic and foreign missions are disregarded, they will inevitably languish and die. This point has been repeatedly urged upon the attention of the parishes as one of vital importance. Within a little more than one year, 175 Prayer Books have been disposed of. The circulation of tracts published by the Protestant Episcopal press, such as the McEllen Family, &c. has, by the blessing of God, had a wonderful effect in dissipating prejudices and in preparing the minds of the people for a warm and hearty reception of the Prayer Book. In the month of April last, the Rev. Mr. Hard resigned the charge of these parishes, and accepted an invitation to take charge of Trinity Church, Plattsburg, N. Y. Since that time they have been destitute, excepting a few Sabbaths which have been occupied by the Rev. Aaron Humphrey. The leading members have with commendable zeal kept up the regular services of the church, and had a sermon read, which has in a good degree kept them together in the unity of the spirit and in the bond of peace. The Rev. Mr. Hard preached two sabbaths in the winter in the town of Highgate, adjoining Sheldon. In that town the foundation of a church edifice was laid in the spring, and by another season will be ready for consecration. This has been commenced by a few liberal, benevolent, warm hearted souls, who love the church, "the pillar and ground of the truth," and ardently desire its prosperity.

Calvary Church, Berkshire.—Baptisms, Adults 12, Infants 16, 34. Funerals 4. Marriage 1. Sunday Scholars 40. Confirmed 30. Communicants, added 40, removed and died 5, 95.

Union Church, Montgomery.—Baptisms, Adults 9, Infants 4, 13. Funeral 1. Sunday Scholars 50. Confirmed 18. Communicants, added 25, 80.

These churches have recently experienced a season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. RICHARD PECK, Rector.

Christ Church, Enosburgh.—Baptisms 4. Confirmed 4. Communicants, added 3, suspended 1, 11.

RICHARD PECK, Minister.

Christ Church, Bethel.—The residence of the present Minister has been only from last October, his institution as Rector took place on the late visitation of the Bishop, eleventh Sunday after Trinity, Aug. 14th. The state of the parish is somewhat promising; and with diligent labor and the Divine Blessing it is hoped the Church will continue to hold on her way.

Present number of Communicants 83. Removed to other places, 7—by death 4. Added this year 6. Baptisms, Adults 4, Infants 5. Sunday School 26. Bible Class 19. Confirmed 23.

The Missionary Society stands as last year.

JAMES SABINE, Rector.

St. James' Church, Woodstock.—Baptisms, Adults 3, Infants 4. Marriage 1. Communicants 26.

The undersigned removed to this parish soon after the last meeting of this Convention, in 1830, since which time his services have been exclusively devoted to the same. Although there has not been by any means that increase of spiritual religion which is ardently desired, yet, through the goodness of God, the congregation has been gradually increasing, and there seems to be indications of increasing seriousness, which we earnestly pray may result in a general excitement of religious feeling. Our Sunday School Library has been recently enlarged, and the condition of the School upon the whole was never more prosperous.

JOEL CLAP, *Rector.*

St. Paul's Church, Windsor.—Communicants 60. Baptisms 8. Confirmations 16. Sunday Scholars, 62. Funerals 3.

W. HORTON, *Officiating Minister.*

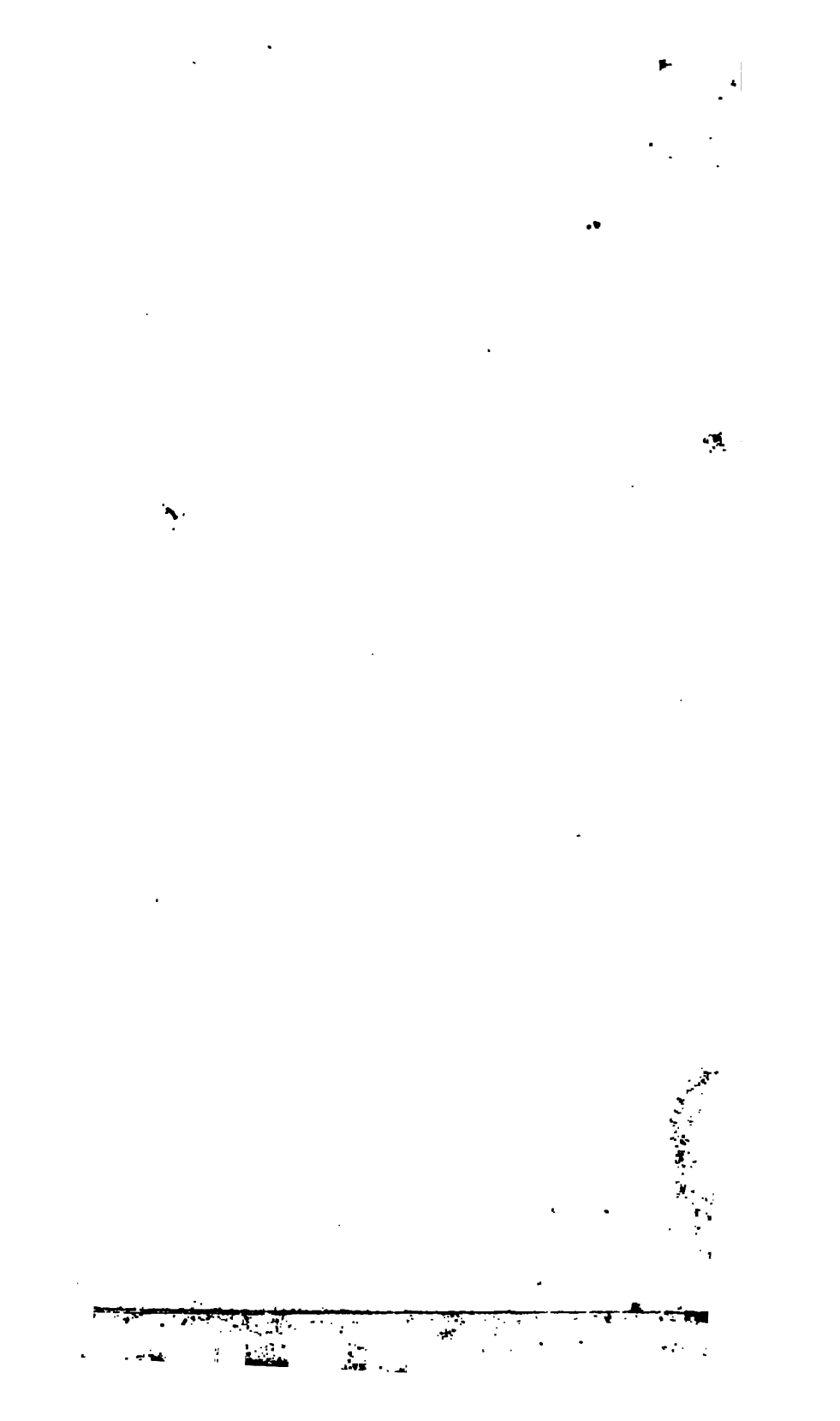
Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.—Baptisms, 7 Adults, 5 children, 12. Marriages 4. Deaths 4. Communicants 45. Deaths 4. Communicants 45. Sunday Scholars 75. Sunday School Library, 300 vols. Parish Library, 180 vols.

The Rector regrets the necessity of reporting a diminished list of Communicants. The pleasure of adding twelve new names has not been sufficient to counterbalance the pain of losing, by death and changes of residence, a still greater number. Yet the bread is on the waters somewhere, and will be found. The congregation has never been so large as it is now. It has indeed outgrown our edifice,—insomuch that measures are in contemplation for making an addition to it; which will probably be effected during the next season. The weekly Bible Class, reported in former years, continues to be well attended. The Rector is disposed to place it among his most interesting and successful means of usefulness. As respects benevolent objects abroad, there has been contributed by the "Ladies' Circle of Industry" for the general purposes of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, the sum of one hundred dollars—for the Greek Mission, by general collection, forty-three dollars—for the Diocesan fund, by Easter collection, fourteen dollars; in all, one hundred and fifty-seven dollars.

CARLTON CHASE, *Rector.*

Christ Church, Guilford.—In Christ Church, Guilford, have been baptized, during the last year, 6 infants and 1 adult. Making allowance for additions, deaths and removals, I find 60 persons now members of the communion, 11 couples have been married, and 24 persons have been buried, of whom 6 were adults. It may not be improper to mention, that the unusual number of deaths reported was occasioned by the prevalence of the Canker Rash, and that many of the most interesting scholars in our Sunday Schools fell victims to this desolating scourge. Present number of families attending church between 80 and 90. There are not far from 80 children in the Sunday Schools, and a respectable class for instruction in the Scriptures has always met during the summer. Since the last Convention, the Church in the East village has been repainted, and is now in thorough repair.

The subscriber, having been called in the providence of God to



JOURNAL

32639

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE

STATE OF VERMONT,

HELD IN

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,

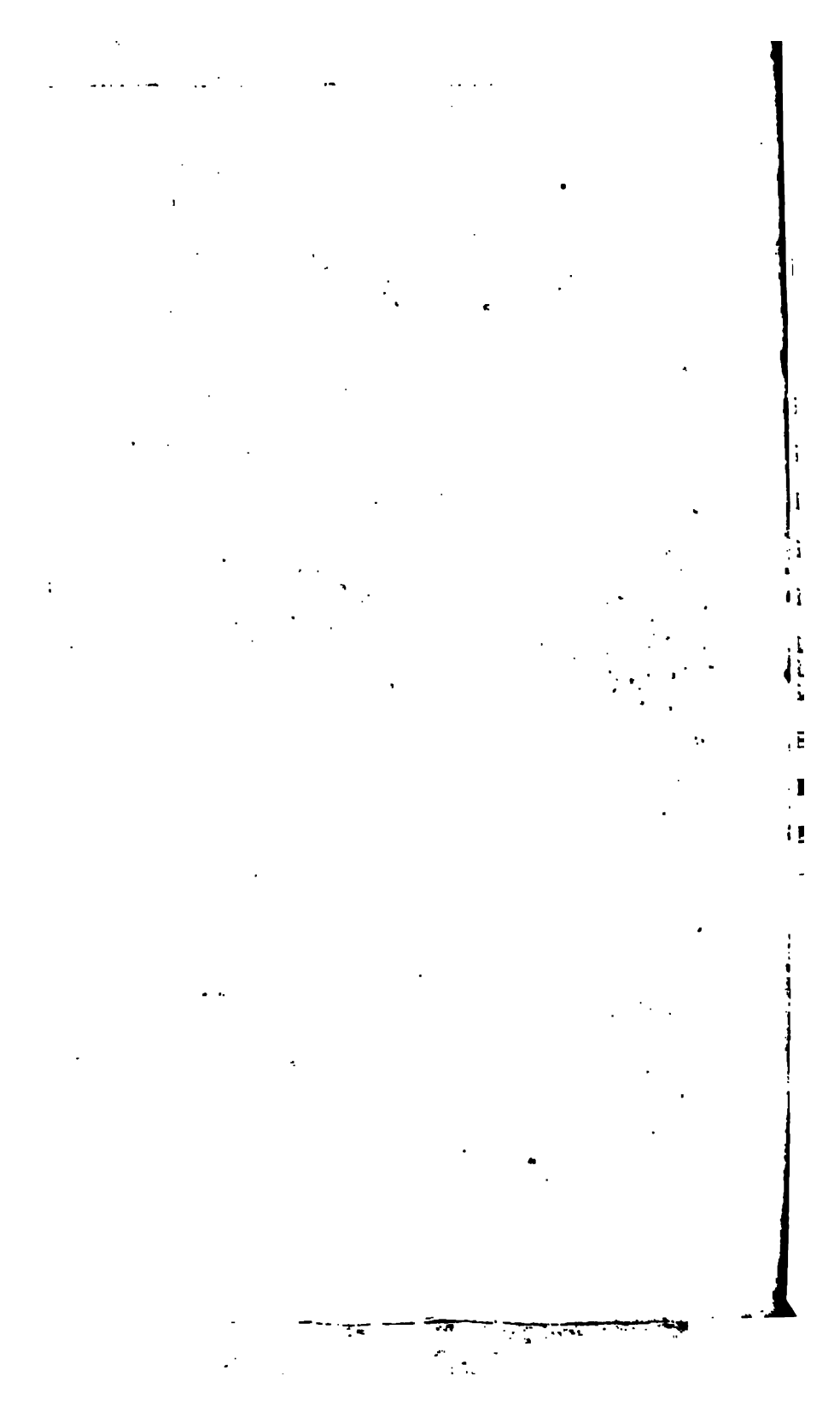
**On the 30th and 31st days of May, and
the 1st day of June,**

1832.

WOODSTOCK :

WILLIAM W. PRESCOTT, PRINTER....COURIER PRESS.

1832.



**List of the Clergy of the Diocese of Vermont,
and of the Lay Delegates, who attended
the Convention of 1832.**



- REV. ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Rector of Zion Church, Manchester.*
 REV. GEORGE T. CHAPMAN, *Rector of St. Paul's Church, Burlington.*
 REV. CARLTON CHASE, *Rector of Immanuel Church, Bel-
lows' Falls.*
 REV. JOEL CLAP, *Rector of St. James' Church, Wood-
stock.*
 REV. SILAS A. CRANE, *Rector of St. Stephen's Church,
Middlebury.*
 REV. ANSON B. HARD, *Rector of Grace Church, Sheldon.*
 REV. JOHN A. HICKS, *Rector of Trinity Church, Rutland.*
 REV. WILLIAM HORTON, *Rector of St. Paul's Church,
Windsor.*
 REV. LOUIS McDONALD, *Rector of Trinity Church, Shel-
burne.*
 REV. SYLVESTER NASH, *Rector of Union Church, St. Al-
bans.*
 REV. RICHARD PECK, *Rector of Calvary Church, Berk-
shire, and Union Church, Montgomery.*
 REV. WILLIAM S. PERKINS, *Rector of St. James' Church,
Arlington.*
 REV. JAMES SABINE, *Rector of Christ Church, Bethel.*

Lay Delegates.

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Sylvester Deming, | } | <i>from St. James' Church, Ar-
lington.</i> |
| Noble Hard, | | |
| Simeon Cole, | | |
| Cyrus B. Hills, | | |
| John B. Lathrop, | } | <i>" Zion Church, Manchester.</i> |
| Truman Purdy, | | |
| Hiram French, | | |
| Jesse Hard, | | |
| Calif Monroe, | } | <i>" St. Paul's Church, Wells.</i> |
| Daniel Fitch, | | <i>" Trinity Church, Pawlet.</i> |
| James Cook, | | |

Timothy Marshall,	}	“	<i>St. John's Church, Poultney.</i>
Aaron Lewis,			
Porter Howe,	}	“	<i>Trinity Church, Rutland.</i>
Lucius M. Purdy,			
Joel Doolittle,	}	“	<i>St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.</i>
George Cleaveland,			
Calvin C. Waller,			
Francis Bradbury,	“	<i>St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.</i>	
Timothy Follett,	}	“	<i>St. Paul's Church, Burlington.</i>
Andrew Thompson,			
Justus Burdick,			
Samuel R. Crane,	}	“	<i>Trinity Church, Milton.</i>
Warren Hoxie,			
John Richardson,	}	“	<i>Union Church, St. Albans.</i>
Benjamin Richardson,			
Isaac J. Potter,	“	<i>Grace Church, Sheldon.</i>	
Alfred Wheeler,	}	“	<i>Trinity Church, Fairfield.</i>
Lyman Hawley,			
Jeptha Bradley,			
David Cobourn,	“	<i>Calvary Church, Berkshire.</i>	
John T. Sabine,	“	<i>Christ Church, Bethel.</i>	
Jesse Lull,	}	“	<i>St. Paul's Church, Windsor.</i>
Simeon Ide,			
Thomas Prentiss,	“	<i>St. John's Church, Perkinsville.</i>	
John Atkinson,	}	“	<i>Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls.</i>
Artemas Robbins,			
M. S. Buckland,			
Dana Hyde,			
Ashbel Dickinson,	“	<i>Christ Church, Guilford.</i>	

JOURNAL.

— 000 —
Wednesday, May 30, 1832.

This being the day appointed by the Constitution, for the annual meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Vermont, a number of the Clergy and Lay Delegates from several parishes, assembled in St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Convention was organized by the appointment of Rev. ABRAHAM BRONSON, *President, Pro tem*, and Rev. JOEL CLAP, *Secretary, Pro tem*.

PRESENT,

Rev. ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Rector of Zion Church, Manchester.*
 Rev. CARLTON CHASE, *Rector of Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls.*
 Rev. JOEL CLAP, *Rector of St. James' Church, Woodstock.*
 Rev. SILAS A. CRANE, *Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.*
 Rev. ANSON B. HARD, *Rector of Grace Church, Sheldon.*
 Rev. JOHN A. HICKS, *Rector of Trinity Church, Rutland.*
 Rev. WILLIAM HORTON, *Rector of St. Paul's Church, Windsor.*
 Rev. LOUIS McDONALD, *Rector of Trinity Church, Shelburne.*
 Rev. SYLVESTER NASH, *Rector of Union Church, St. Albans.*
 Rev. RICHARD PECK, *Rector of Calvary Church, Berkshire, and Union Church, Montgomery.*
 Rev. WILLIAM S. PERKINS, *Rector of St. James' Church, Arlington.*
 Rev. JAMES SABINE, *Rector of Christ Church, Bethel.*

The following gentleman appeared, presented their credentials and took their seats as Lay Delegates.

Sylvester Deming,	} from St. James' Church, Arlington.
Noble Hard,	
Simeon Cole,	
Cyrus B. Hills,	
John B. Lathrop,	} " St. Paul's Church, Wells.
Calif Monroe,	
Daniel Fitch,	} " Trinity Church, Pawlet.
James Cook,	
Timothy Marshall,	} " St. John's Church, Poultney.
Aaron Lewis,	
Porter Howe,	} " Trinity Church, Rutland.
Lucius M. Pardy,	
Joel Doolittle,	} " St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.
George Cleaveland,	
Calvin C. Waller,	
John Richardson,	
Benjamin Richardson,	} " Union Church, St. Albans.
Isaac J. Potter,	
Alfred Wheeler,	} Grace Church, Sheldon.
Lyman Hawley,	
Jephtha Bradley,	} " Trinity Church, Fairfield.

David Cobourn, " *Calvary Church, Berkshire.*
 John T. Sabine, " *Christ Church, Bethel.*
 Jesse Lull, } " *St. Paul's Church, Windsor.*
 Simeon Ide, }
 John Atkinson, " *Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls.*
 Dana Hyde, " *Christ Church, Guilford.*
 Thomas Prentiss, " *St. John's Church, Perkinsville.*

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That the President be, and he hereby is, requested to invite Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and candidates for Holy Orders in the same, who may be in town during the session of this Convention, to honorary seats in the same.

REV. ABRAHAM BRONSON was chosen *President*, and REV. JOEL CLAP, *Secretary*.

The following gentlemen were elected the Standing Committee:—Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Joel Clap, Rev. Silas A. Crane, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Sylvester Nash.

The business of the Convention was suspended for the purpose of attending divine service.

Morning prayers were read by Rev. James Sabine—the sermon preached by Rev. William Horton.

The Holy Communion was administered by the Rev. President, assisted by Rev. Anson B. Hard; after which the business of the Convention was resumed.

Rev. George T. Chapman, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Burlington, appeared and took his seat.

The following Lay Delegates appeared, presented their credentials, and took their seats:—

Truman Purdy, }
 Hiram French, } *from Zion Church, Manchester.*
 Jesse Hard, }
 Artemas Robbins, " *Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls.*

Convention adjourned until 3 o'clock, this afternoon.

*
Wednesday, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

The following Lay Delegates appeared, presented their credentials, and took their seats:—

Francis Bradbury, *from St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.*
M. S. Buckland, "*Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls.*"
Ashbel Dickinson, "*Christ Church, Guilford.*"

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That the Convention do now proceed to the consideration of the separation of this State from the Eastern Diocese.

Whereupon, the Secretary having informed the Convention that, in compliance with the Resolution of the last Convention, upon this subject, he had applied in behalf of the Churches in this State, to the Diocesan and the several State Conventions within the Eastern Diocese, for permission to withdraw from the said Eastern Diocese, presented the following documents:—

[An extract from the Journal of the last Convention of the Eastern Diocese.]

The report of the Committee on the division of the Eastern Diocese was made, in the words following, and unanimously adopted.

"The committee to whom was referred so much of the Bishop's address, as relates to the division of the Eastern Diocese, together with the communication from Vermont, having taken the important subject intrusted to them, into the most serious deliberation, with diligent inquiry as to the proceedings relative to the same subject, in the several states composing the Eastern Diocese, respectfully report the following preamble and resolutions:—

Whereas, it appears to this Convention, that the Church in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is desirous to be erected into a diocese by itself, retaining Bishop Griswold as its Diocesan: and Whereas, the Church in the State of Vermont has communicated to this Convention its desire to apply to the several states, composing the Eastern Diocese, for permission to withdraw according to the provision of the 9th Article of the Constitution: therefore

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Convention, the desire of Massachusetts is reasonable, and ought as soon as circumstances allow, to be granted: and this Convention, while it approves the course intended by Vermont, expressly recommends to the several states composing the Eastern Diocese, with the exception of Massachusetts, to withdraw, as soon as may be convenient, from this Convention, and to erect themselves into distinct Dioceses."

Cambridge, Nov. 2, 1831.

REV. AND DEAR SIR:—At a Special Convention of the P. E. Ch. in Mass. holden this day, at Trinity Church, Boston, the following resolution was passed unanimously, and is now communicated to you, in obedience to the direction of said Convention.

"The Convention having been certified of the anxious desire of the State of Vermont, to withdraw from the Eastern Diocese, and to erect itself into a separate Diocese as soon as may be : Therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention fully concur therein, provided the assent of the Rt. Rev. Bishop of the Eastern Diocese be had thereto : and this Convention, in the adoption of the above resolution, the effect of which, is to promote the separation of a compact, which has existed for many years, and by the divine blessing, been productive of much comfort and advantage, commends the Church in Vermont, in case such separation should be effected, to the blessing of God, sincerely desiring for it all spiritual prosperity and peace."

T. W. COIT, *Secretary of Con. of Mass.*

To Rev. JOEL CLAP, *Sec'y of Con. of Vt.*

A Special Convention of the P. E. Ch. in the State of Maine, was holden in St. Paul's Church, Portland, Tuesday, Feb'y 7, 1832, for the consideration of the request of the State of Vermont, as officially communicated by the Rev. Joel Clap, for permission to withdraw from the Eastern Diocese :—

There were present, Rev. Messrs. Ten Broeck, Olney, and Meuncher, of the Clergy.

Messrs. J. Merrill and M. P. Sawyer, of St. Paul's Ch. P. and Mr. John Batchelder of Trinity Ch. Saco—

Rev. Petrus S. Ten Broeck was elected President.

Prayers were offered up by Rev. Mr. Meuncher, of Saco. Voted that the Rev. Benj. Hale be admitted to the sittings of this Convention.

After consideration of the request communicated by the Secretary of Vermont, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Whereas the present exigencies of the Church in the State of Vermont seem to render it expedient that said Church should constitute a separate Diocese, with the view to the election of a Bishop ;

And whereas, the Convention of the Eastern Diocese has already consented to the measure, and our venerable Diocesan has approved the same : Therefore,

Resolved, That the request of the Prot. Epis. Church in the State of Vermont, officially communicated to this Convention, by the Rev. Joel Clap, to withdraw from the Eastern Diocese, be cordially complied with.

Resolved, also, That in giving our assent to the separation of the Church in Vermont from the Eastern Diocese, we heartily wish it God speed in its new course.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Convention be requested to trans-

mit a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions, to the Secretary of the Convention of the Episc. Church in the State of Vermont.

Attest, SAMUEL CUTLER, Sec'y Maine Con.

Warren, March 12, 1832.

Rev. Mr. CLAY,—DEAR SIR :—At a special Convention of the Prot. Episc. Church in Rhode-Island, held in St. Paul's Church, North Providence, on the 8th inst. the following resolutions were adopted :—

That this Convention having been officially informed that the Churches in Vermont are desirous of withdrawing from the Eastern Diocese, and the Constitution of said Diocese requiring our consent, it is therefore

Resolved, That we consent to their withdrawal.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Convention communicate the same to the Secretary of the Convention of the Church in Vermont.

Yours, respectfully,

GEO. W. HATHAWAY.

At a special Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Churches of the State of New-Hampshire, holden at St. John's Church, in Portsmouth, on Saturday, the 21st day of April, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, at eleven of the clock in the forenoon, to act on the following business, to wit :

1. To choose a President to govern the said Convention.

2. To take into consideration the application of the Episcopal Churches in Vermont to the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Churches of New-Hampshire, for permission to withdraw their connexion from the Eastern Diocese, and for the State of Vermont to be erected into a separate Diocese.

On motion of Mr. Cutts,

Voted, That, whereas, the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Churches in the State of Vermont, have applied to the Conventions of the several States constituting the Eastern Diocese, for permission to withdraw their connexion from the said Diocese, with a view that the State of Vermont may be erected into a separate Diocese, this Convention do now consent that the several Protestant Episcopal Churches in the State of Vermont may, at their pleasure, for the purpose aforesaid, withdraw their connexion from the Eastern Diocese.

CHARLES BURROUGHS, *President*.

LORY ODEL, *Secretary, Pro tem*.

A true copy as of record,

LORY ODEL, *Secretary, Pro tem*.

To the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Vermont.

Whereas, by mutual consent and permission of the Convention of the Eastern Diocese, and of the Conventions of the several States which constitute or compose the said Eastern Diocese, it has, on my recommendation, and with my approval, been permitted and agreed, that the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Vermont, should be separated from the said Eastern Diocese, and be independent under the name and title of the Diocese of Vermont:

Therefore, I hereby authorise and permit the Convention of the said Diocese of Vermont, at their next, or any other regular meeting, to proceed to the choice of a Bishop for the said State of Vermont, and to transact all other business appertaining to an entire Diocese, and as being independent of the Eastern Diocese.

ALEX. V. GRISWOLD, *Bishop of the
Eastern Diocese.*

Salem, May 7, 1832.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase, the following preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted.

Whereas, at an adjourned session of the last annual Convention, holden at Arlington, on the last Wednesday of August, 1831, measures were taken for separating this State from the Eastern Diocese, and for erecting it into an independent Diocese—and

Whereas, the said measures and the projected separation have received the approbation of the Convention of the Eastern Diocese—of the Bishop of the same—and of the Conventions of the several States, constituting that Diocese—Therefore,

Resolved, That the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Vermont, is hereby declared to be, and is an independent and distinct Episcopal jurisdiction, under the name and style of the DIOCESE OF VERMONT, subject only to the law of our Lord and Saviour, and under him, to the Constitution and Canons of the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in these United States.

The proceedings relative to the organization of the following Parishes having been approved by this Convention, they were admitted into connexion with the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Vermont.

St. Paul's Church, *Burlington.*

Trinity Church, *Milton.*

Union Church, *Springfield.*

The following gentlemen appeared, presented their credentials, and took their seats as Lay Delegates.

Andrew Thomson, } from St. Paul's Church,
Justus Burdick, } Burlington.
Samuel R. Crane, }
Warren Hoxie, } " Trinity Church, Milton.

The following Report of the Prudential Committee, was read and accepted.

To the Convention of the Diocese of Vermont, assembled at Middlebury,
May, 30, 1832,

The Prudential Committee in offering their Annual Report, have the pleasure to state,

That the encouraging anticipations announced in their last Report respecting the Prudential interests of the Diocese, appear to be in a course of realization as rapid as could with reason be expected. The application to the Venerable Society, for a new letter of attorney, and for the appointment of additional agents was favorably received. As soon as the usual forms of business could be complied with, the proper document—not differing in any cardinal point from the former—was delivered to our solicitor in London, from whom it was received here about the first of January last. The agents appear to have felt the importance of proceeding to business with all possible despatch. A meeting was held at Middlebury during the first week in February, where and when the agency was completely organized under the name and style of "The Vermont Agency of the Society for the propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts." Rules of business were adopted for adjusting and facilitating the operations of the Agency; sundry important settlements were effected; and much appears to have been done towards bringing the affairs of the agency, hitherto confused, into seemly shape and order.

There still exist claims on the Treasury to a considerable amount—say three thousand dollars, which the agents intend to discharge gradually while they annually distribute a small allowance to the Churches. At the February meeting an allowance of fifty dollars was made to each Church, or association of Churches, having a Clergyman.

To what further expense the agency may be driven in asserting and maintaining the rights of the Church, the Committee can not with confidence predict; though they consider the prospect in that particular, rather favorable than otherwise.—Some further expense there certainly must be—as the Convention will judge from the fact that twelve suits have been commenced at the late term of the Circuit Court. There is every reason to believe that many of these will be compromised before going to trial. It is expected that an additional number of suits will be undertaken before the October Term.

It appears to the Committee, that the agency as now constituted, may be relied on for acting with probity, wisdom and efficiency; and with due attention to that cardinal virtue in the management of all temporal trusts having a spiritual object, economy. It consists of the following named persons. Alexander Viets Griswold, Abraham Bronson, Daniel Chipman, Jonathan Hatch Hubbard, Jonathan Hagar, Doratus Wooster, and Carlton Chase.

With respect to the collection of the rents by the sub-agents, a subject on which the Convention has heretofore manifested some solicitude, the committee see at present, little cause of complaint. There doubtless are some cases of needless and injurious delay in the enforcement of collections. To this, the general agency will give attention in due time—being determined that men who undertake to do their business, shall do it promptly as well as honestly.

It may be of use to such as have, or shall have business with the Agency, to know that the Agents have resolved to hold a meeting during the first week in the month of February, annually.

All which is respectfully submitted.

CARLTON CHASE,
For the Committee.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,
Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to prepare and report to this Convention, an Address to the Rt. Rev. Bishop Griswold.

Whereupon, the following gentlemen were appointed on said Committee:—Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Sylvester Nash, Hon. Joel Doolittle.

On motion by Hon. Joel Doolittle, the following Preamble and Resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Whereas, the State of Vermont has become, and is a separate Diocese, in conformity to the Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and as such, entitled to separate Episcopal Jurisdiction: And the Episcopate of said Diocese being now vacant, and in the opinion of this Convention, it is expedient for the well ordering of the Church in said Diocese, that said vacancy be filled at as early a period as may be—Therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention do, at its present session, proceed to the election of a suitable person to the Episcopate of said Diocese, to fill said vacancy, in the manner pointed out by the Canons of this Church.

Resolved, That the Convention proceed to make the election, contemplated in the above resolution, on Thursday, the 31st day of instant May, at 8 o'clock, A. M.

Convention adjourned until 8 o'clock, tomorrow morning.

Thursday, May 31, 8 o'clock A. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

Hon. Timothy Follett, a Lay Delegate from St. Paul's Church, Burlington, appeared, and his credentials having been previously presented, took his seat.

On motion by Mr. Noble Hard,

Resolved, That the order of the day be dispensed with, for the purpose of receiving the Parochial Reports.

The following Parochial Reports were presented, and read.

St. James' Church, Arlington.—Since last Convention, nothing specially interesting has occurred among us. The Church edifice has been completed and arrangements have been made to obtain a superior organ. The Missionary Association have constituted their Rector a life member of the General Missionary Society. Communicants, 112—additions, 3—Baptism, 1 adult—deaths, 4.

W. S. PERKINS, Rector.

Zion Church, Manchester.—The work of grace has continued to make progress in this Church. The Parish is small, but a large majority of the people are decidedly and actively pious. Since the Convention of last August, two communicants have been removed by death—three have been transferred to other churches—eleven have joined in communion. Nearly twenty, it is believed, have been truly converted, who have not yet come to that holy ordinance. The Parish have contributed thirty dollars to constitute the Rector a life member of the General Missionary Society. Baptisms,

15—Marriages, 2—Funerals, 10—Communicants, 62.

ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Rector*.

Trinity Church, Pawlet.—Removals, 1—Additions, 4—Communicants, 29.

DANIEL FITCH, *Warden*.

St. Paul's Church, Wells.—Communicants, 22. We have been destitute of preaching since the Rev. Mr. Bennett left Granville, the fore part of the winter last past : yet we are in connexion with the Church at Granville.

DANIEL LEWIS, }
JOHN C. HOPSON, } *Wardens*.

St. John's Church, Poultney.—Communicants, (added 2, died 2,) 40. Baptisms, (adults, 1—infants and children, 5,) 6—Sunday Scholars about 20. The Bible, Prayer Book, Tract, Missionary, and Female Charitable Associations, heretofore reported as organized, continue their operations ; and though all they have accomplished may be little, yet they judge that that little should not be left unnoticed.

On the 27th May, 1831, the corner stone of an edifice for the accommodation of this Parish, was laid with public and religious solemnities : and by the Lord's blessing, the same has been completed, and the congregation permitted to occupy it for the first time, on Sunday last, being May 27, 1832. The house is ready for consecration ; and the Parish are inquiring when the Bishop's presence will afford them an opportunity of surrendering it to the honor of God's name and worship.

The style of the house is Gothick ; the material wood : its situation and appearance, truly beautiful ; its internal arrangements convenient ; and it will seat about four hundred people. Its erection has cost the few attached members of the Parish great effort and self-denial ; nor should it be concealed, that the Parish still lies under the painful and dangerous embarrassment of somewhat more than the cost of the lot of land on which the house is erected. Should assistance now be obtained to the amount of \$150 or \$200 the Parish would doubtless make a prompt and successful effort for the speedy disposition of the remainder of its debt, and might then be represented as placed on a footing of permanence and prosperity.

By the kind permission of the two congregations with which he is engaged, the subscriber has, since and soon after the last meeting of this Convention, spent two Sundays with the parish in Rutland, and visited them a few times on other days. Of his doings there, he thought it proper to transmit the more specific record to the present Rector of that parish.

MOORE BINGHAM, *Rector*.

Trinity Church, Rutland.—Rev. J. A. Hicks reports that he visited Rutland and officiated there for the first time, on the 2nd Sunday of January. Having received an invitation from the Vestry of Trinity Church to become their Pastor, he has since continued to preach in the East Village, twice on Sunday, and in the West Parish, weekly, on Thursday evening. Besides these services, he has preached occasionally at the middle Village and in other places of the surrounding country. He has lately established a weekly lecture, Bible class and Sunday School, and also a Bible class at the Middle Village. The Bible classes together contain about thirty members, and the Sunday School 25 scholars, and (including their pastor) four teachers. The number of communicants is about 17.

JOHN A. HICKS.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.—Baptisms, 12—Infants 8, adults 4. Communicants, added 8, died and removed, 3—present number, 49. Marriages, 6. Burials, 6. Sunday School 40. Bible class, number varying. Easter collection \$3.19. Since the report in August last, there have been some additions to the Sunday School Library ; and although attendance at the stated and occasional services of the Church is by no means so general, constant and punctual, as the importance of the subject demands, yet, painful and unpromising as this circumstance is, the Rector still indulges

the hope that on the whole, the condition of this Church is improving, and that the strong bearings of public worship upon the best interests of man, both in this life and the life to come, are beginning to be better understood and better attended to.

S. A. CRANE, *Rector*.

Trinity Church, Shelburn. Baptisms, 16 infants. Marriages, 6. Funerals, 5. Communicants, 74, 4 added. Suspended, 1. Bible class, 20. Sunday School, 35. I have attended one funeral in Charlotte, and one in Hinesburgh.

LOUIS McDONALD, *Rector*.

St. Paul's Church, Burlington. In the spring of 1831, I received an application from the then recently organized Episcopal Society at Burlington, requesting my services, for an indefinite time. The result was my arrival so as to officiate with them on the second Sunday of June, 1831. Soon after I was elected Rector of the Parish, and have regularly officiated since, three times in each sabbath, to full congregations. Before these proceedings, there had been no stated services of our Church, at Burlington, and the number of families was estimated at about twenty. By the divine blessing upon my ministry, the number of families is now near, or quite, eighty. The first time the communion was administered, there were seventeen to receive, several of whom had not previously joined the Church; the present number is forty eight. A Sunday School has been established, and one hundred and three scholars have been admitted. The requisite number of teachers were also easily obtained, with three hundred and seventy seven books of instruction, and one hundred and thirty two suitable works for the Library. The number of baptisms has been 48—34 children, and 14 adults. The marriages have been 4, the funerals 5: and shortly after my arrival, confirmation was held, by the Rt. Rev. Bishop of the Diocese, and fourteen persons were confirmed. A much larger number are now ready to receive that holy rite, when the opportunity shall occur. The building of a Church edifice was commenced in September last, and is under contract to be completed by the first of next September.

This edifice is of unhewn stone, in the Gothic style, with tower, buttresses, &c, and promises to be eminently beautiful, reflecting great credit upon the zeal and liberality of this new and rising parish. The dimensions are, in length, including recess and tower, 86 feet; in breadth, 48: height of the cornice, 29 feet; of the tower, about 75 feet. The inside of the church is now finishing.

Recapitulation.—Families 90—Baptisms 48, of whom 14 adults. Confirmed 14—Communicants 48—Marriages 4—Funerals 5—Sunday Scholars admitted 103.

G. T. CHAPMAN, *Rector*.

May 30, 1832.

N. B. I also succeeded during the last winter, in organizing a new Society, by the name of Trinity Church, at the town of Milton, fourteen miles north of Burlington. They will be represented in the present Convention. It is believed that there are at least thirty of the most respectable families, in the town, who will liberally aid in endeavoring to establish this church, on a permanent foundation. When I have been there, which has been principally in the week time, they have manifested a most laudable spirit, and notwithstanding the visits were made, in most instances, when the weather was extremely unfavorable, the attendance has been highly gratifying. I should mention that four of the preceding baptisms were at this town, and one at Shelburn, as also one funeral at the latter place, the Rector of that Church being absent. The exact number of communicants, at Trinity Church, Milton, I do not know, and therefore, have not included them in the preceding number. They are however, more than ten, and probably more than twenty.

G. T. C.

Union Church, St. Albans.—Baptisms, (adults 6, children 10,) 16—Marriages, 3—Communicants, 58. Nineteen have been added, and nine have removed, since the last Convention.

With heartfelt gratitude to the Great Head of the Church, the Rector would acknowledge His goodness in the revived attention to the subject of salvation, which was manifest in this parish, while himself was confined upon a sick-bed.

There does not now appear to be any extraordinary attention, but there is good reason to believe that a goodly number will be witnesses, in eternity, to the benefit of that which was experienced in August and September last. May the Lord add to their number.

S. NASH, *Rector.*

Trinity Church, Fairfield, and Grace Church, Sheldon.—During the past year these parishes have been without a clergyman. Occasional services have been held by ministers of other parishes, and lay reading has for the most part been kept up with commendable zeal, which has had a happy effect in promoting their spiritual health and prosperity.

Fairfield.—Baptisms, 2—additions, 6—communicants, 91. *Sheldon.*—Baptisms, 10—additions 16—Communicants, 91. Since the first organization of the church, in these parishes, they have united in supporting a clergyman, who has alternately preached in each church, every other sabbath. During the past year, an amicable dissolution of this connexion has taken place.

The parish in Sheldon joined with a few Episcopalians in Highgate, in supporting the ministry, and has invited the Rev. A. B. Hard to become their minister. Mr. H. accepted the invitation, and took charge of the parishes in April last. In Highgate, a church will be organized in a few weeks. A few Episcopalians in Fairfax have united with Fairfield in supporting the ministry. They have sent invitations to clergymen with the promise of comfortable support, but have not as yet obtained one. "The field is now white unto the harvest," the Lord send them a pious, devoted, self-denying laborer.

A. B. HARD, *Minister of Sheldon.*

Calvary Church, Berkshire.—Baptisms, (adults 16, infants 14,) 30—Sunday Scholars 40—Communicants, (added 28, removed and withdrawn 4,) 114.

RICHARD PECK, *Rector.*

Union Church, Montgomery.—Baptisms 2—Deaths 2—Marriage 1—Sunday Scholars 60—Communicants (added 8, error in the last report 3, removed and died 8,) 72.

RICHARD PECK, *Rector.*

Christ Church, Bethel.—Things generally, are much the same, as last year. Number of Communicants, 90. Removed to other places, 2. By death, 2. Baptisms, [adults 8, infants 8,] 6. Sunday School, 26. Bible Class, 23. Collected for Contingent fund, \$3.88.

JAMES SABINE, *Rector.*

St. James' Church, Woodstock.—Baptisms, [adults, 2, Children 9,] 11. Marriages, 5. Removals, 7. Communicants, 25. Nothing of unusual interest has occurred in relation to the condition of this parish, during the past year.

JOEL CLAP, *Rector.*

St. Paul's Church, Windsor.—Communicants, 58, Baptisms, 2, Sunday Scholars, 60.

WILLIAM HORTON, *Rector.*

Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls. Baptisms, (Adults 9, Children 12,) 21. Confirmations, 6. Marriage, 1. Deaths, 4. Communicants, 60. Sunday Scholars, 75. Sunday School Library, about 300 volumes. Parish Library, 186 volumes.

Through divine favor the Rector is enabled to report this Church as in a condition highly prosperous. A large addition has been made to the Communion, and it may be truly said, that the truths, duties and hopes of religion are regarded with great and increasing interest. By the desire of numbers who could not be accommodated within the limited circle of a Bible class, the Rector has converted his Bible class exercise into a weekly expository lecture. This has hitherto been attended in a manner greatly to his

encouragement. The Society of Ladies have the sum of fifty dollars in hand to be forwarded by the first opportunity to the Treasurer of our Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society ; it being their first payment on Mr. Greenleaf's plan.

C. CHASE, *Rector*.

On motion,

Resolved, That this Convention do now proceed to the election of a Bishop for the Diocese of Vermont.

After singing a portion of the 122nd Psalm, some minutes were spent in secret prayer. The President then conducted the public devotions of the Convention in the use of some appropriate collects.

The clergy then retired, for the purpose of making a nomination, as required by the 5th Article of the Constitution. And on their return, the President informed the Convention that the Clergy had proceeded to vote by ballot for some suitable person to be nominated, for Bishop of the Diocese, and that the Rev. John H. Hopkins received a majority of the ballots of all the Clergy entitled to vote : And in behalf of the Clergy, nominated the said John H. Hopkins for Bishop of the Diocese of Vermont.

The Clergy again retired in order to give the Laity an opportunity to act upon the aforesaid nomination : on their return, the Laity announced by their Chairman, Hon. Joel Doolittle, the approval on their part, of the aforesaid nomination of the Rev. John H. Hopkins, as Bishop of Vermont, by a majority of all the Lay Delegates entitled to seats in this Convention.

The Convention adjourned until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

Thursday, 2 o'clock, P. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered*, that the following, which is a correct statement of the votes on the election of a Bishop which took place this morning, be entered on the journals of this Convention.

By the Clergy, for Rev. John H. Hopkins,	- - 7
“ “ Rev. John S. Stone,	- - 6
By the Laity, for approval,	- - 31
“ Against approving,	- - 9

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, unanimously, That the Rev. John H. Hopkins be, and he is hereby declared duly elected Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Vermont.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That the President of this Convention be, and he hereby is directed, under his own signature and the counter signature of the Secretary, to inform the Bishop elect of his election.

The following gentlemen were appointed Delegates to the General Convention. Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. George T. Chapman, Rev. Sylvester Nash.—Messrs. George Cleaveland, Simeon Ide, Truman Purdy, Samuel R. Crane.

On motion, by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That in case it should be inconvenient for any or either of the aforesaid delegates to attend the General Convention, they be severally authorized to appoint a substitute, with the consent of any two members of the Standing Committee.

The Committee appointed to prepare an address to the Right Rev. Bishop Griswold, reported the following address, which was unanimously adopted.

The Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Vermont,

To the Right Reverend Alexander V. Griswold, Bishop of the Eastern Diocese.

Reverend Father in God,

In assuming the station of a distinct and independent Diocese, we are reminded at every step of our measures, of the relation which our Church during the period of twenty years, has sustained towards you. Amidst the interest attending this great and affecting crisis in our ecclesiastical concerns, our “hearts are bowed as the heart of one man” at the thought of taking leave of him, whose hands, after the manner of the Holy Apostles,

C

ties have been laid on us and our children, blessing, confirming, and ordaining in God's name..

When we look back to the period of your first visitations, and consider that we were then "the fewest of all people," we feel thankfully sensible of that providence which set you over us in the Lord, and which enabled you by example, and counsel, and doctrine, to contribute so much towards the revival of his work among us. And now in the very fact of our separation, we make it manifest, that the good hand of our God has hitherto rested on us, multiplying and strengthening us under your ministry; and at length, granting us such possessions and prospects, both spiritual and temporal, as seem to make it plain that we ought to ask of the Great Head of the Church, the entire services of a Bishop.

This crisis has indeed been delayed through an extreme unwillingness to deprive ourselves of the ministrations of a Bishop whom we so truly revere and love. And we come to our present measures only under the conviction, that our Churches need a degree of attention which no man can possibly render, whose field of duty and weight of burdens are as great as yours.

It may be truly said that the Lord has so multiplied the seed sown under your ministry, that the fruits have become more than you can gather. In compliance therefore with a suggestion often repeated by yourself, we are at length constrained to invite "another to enter into your labors"—in the full belief "that both he that hath sowed, and he that shall reap, will rejoice together."

And now, Reverend Father, while with grateful and affectionate hearts we take leave of you, "sorrowing most of all that we shall see your face no more," suffer us as the children of your prayers and labors of love, to beg an interest in your remembrance and in your daily supplications before the throne of grace. And be assured that towards you we shall never cease to cherish a filial regard; nor will it cease to be our hearts' desire that the Lord will have you in his holy and special keeping—sealing your office and Ministry with abundant effusions of his holy spirit, and thus multiplying your "crowns of rejoicing in the day of the Lord Jesus."

On motion,

Resolved, That the members of this Convention be, and they hereby are requested severally to sign the aforesaid address; and that the Secretary be directed to forward it to Bishop Griswold.

The Address was then signed by all the Clerical and Lay members of the Convention who were present.

The Canonical Testimonial in favor of the consecration of the Bishop elect was then read and signed by all the Clergy and all the Laity of the Convention who were present. (See appendix.)

On motion by Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That the Delegation to the General Convention be authorized to take such measures as may be necessary to obtain the consecration of the Bishop elect.

On motion,

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of this Convention be held at Rutland.

The Rev. George T. Chapman was appointed to preach before the next Convention, and the Rev. Anson B. Hard was appointed his substitute.

The following Report of the Standing Committee was presented and read.

At a regular meeting of the Standing Committee, holden at Arlington, on the 31st day of August, 1831, at which were present Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Joel Clap, and Rev. Silas A Crane :

The Rev. Abraham Bronson was appointed President, and Rev. Joel Clap, Secretary.

The requisite Testimonials in favor of the consecration of the Rev. Levi Silliman Ives, Bishop elect of the Diocese of North Carolina, and Rev. Benjamin Bosworth Smith, Bishop elect of the Diocese of Kentucky, were duly executed.

The Canonical Testimonial in favour of Lucius M. Purdy, recommending him to be received as a candidate for Holy Orders was executed.

At a meeting of the Committee duly called, holden at Woodstock on the 2nd day of Nov. 1831, present, Rev. Abraham Bronson, Rev. Joel Clap, Rev. Carlton Chase, Rev. Sylvester Nash :

The Secretary of the Convention was directed to give notice to the Clergy and the several parishes in the

State, that an election of a Bishop for the Diocese of Vermont will take place at the next annual meeting of the Convention in said State. And also to request the standing committees of the several States composing the Eastern Diocese, to call special Conventions in order to lay before them the application of this State to withdraw from the Eastern Diocese.

- The requisite Testimonial recommending John T. Sabine to be received as a candidate for Holy Orders was duly executed.

JOEL CLAP, *Secretary.*

May 29, 1832.

The Treasurer of the Contingent Fund presented the following Report, which was read and accepted.

Joel Clap, Treasurer of the Contingent Fund.

<i>In account with the Convention,</i>		<i>Dr.</i>
To balance on hand, as per last Report, - - - - -		\$79.38
To contribution taken up in Convention. - - - - -		8.00
To contribution from Union Church, St. Albans, - - - - -		7.43
“ “ Zion Church, Manchester, - - - - -		3.00
“ “ Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls, - - - - -		5.00
“ “ St. Paul's Church, Windsor, - - - - -		5.00
“ “ Christ Church, Bethel, - - - - -		3.82
“ “ St. Paul's Church, Wells, - - - - -		1.00
		<hr/> \$113.38

Cr.

By Cash paid for printing Journals of 1831, - - - - -	\$12.00
By Trunk for Records, &c. - - - - -	2.50
	<hr/> 15.50

Balance on hand this day, \$97.83

JOEL CLAP, *Treasurer.*

May 31, 1832.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Nash,

Resolved, That those parishes which have not taken up a collection for the Contingent Fund, be requested to take up a collection for that Fund, on or before the last Sunday in June next, and forward the same to the Treasurer.

On motion, ordered, That the Secretary publish 600 copies of the Journal of this Convention, at the expense of the Contingent Fund.

On motion by Rev. Mr. Nash,

Voted, That the Treasurer of the Contingent Fund be directed to pay to each of the Delegates from this Convention, who may attend the next General Convention, \$10.00.

On motion,

Ordered, That the following proposed alteration of the Constitution be entered upon the Journal.

Resolved, That the Constitution of this Diocese be so altered, that the annual Convention shall meet on the third Wednesday in September, annually.

The Prudential Committee for the year ensuing, was appointed as follows:—Andrew Thompson, John Atkinson, John A. Pratt, and Hon. Joel Doolittle.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the Contingent Fund be directed to forward to the Secretary of the General Convention the assessment for this Diocese.

On motion,

Resolved, That a committee of six be appointed to make arrangements for the location and salary of the Bishop elect.

The following gentlemen were appointed on said committee:—Rev. George T. Chapman, Andrew Thomson Esq. Revs Carlton Chase, Hon. Joel Doolittle, Mr. Simeon Ide, and Rev. John A. Hicks.

The Rev. Silas A. Crane was appointed Assistant Secretary.

Convention adjourned until 5 o'clock, tomorrow morning.

Friday, June 1, 5 o'clock, A. M.

Convention met according to adjournment; and after a selection of collects read by the Rev. President, adjourned without day.

A true record,

JOEL CLAP, *Secretary.*

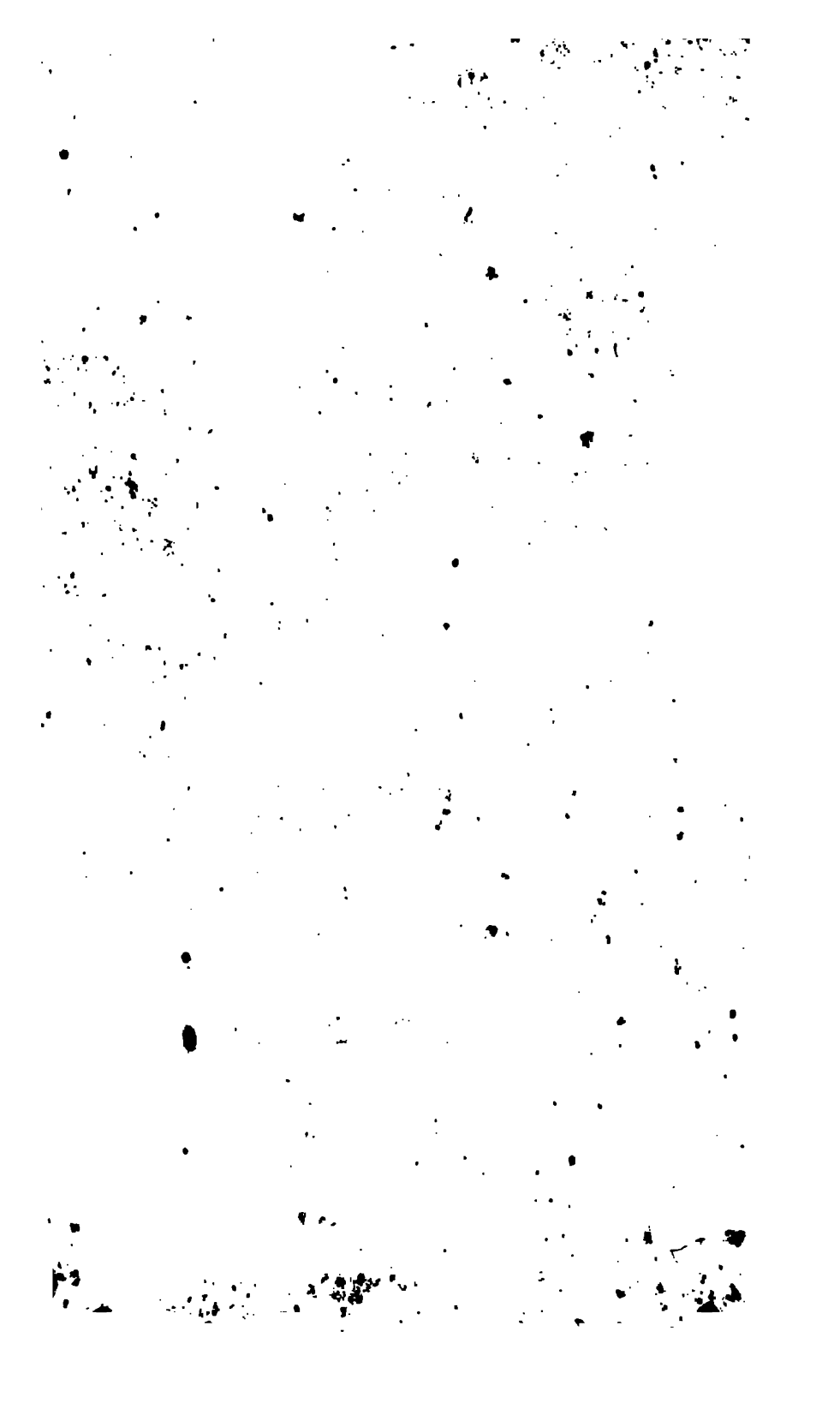


Treman Purdy,	}	<i>Laitly from Zion Church, Manchester.</i>
Jesse Hard,		
Hiram French,		
Artemas Robbins,	}	<i>Delegates from Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls.</i>
John Atkinson,		
M. S. Buckland,		
A. Thompson,	}	" " <i>St. Paul's Church, Burlington.</i>
Timothy Follett,		
Justus Burdick,		
Calif Monroe,	"	<i>St. Paul's Church, Wells.</i>
John Richardson,	}	" <i>Union Church, St. Albans.</i>
Benjamin Richardson,		
Alfred Wheeler,	}	" <i>Trinity Church, Fairfield.</i>
Lyman Hawley,		
Joseph Bradley,		
Isaac J. Potter,	"	<i>Grace Church, Sheldon.</i>
Wm. Bradley,	"	<i>St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.</i>
Porter Howe,	}	" <i>Trinity Church, Rutland.</i>
Lucius W. Purdy,		
John T. Sabine,	"	<i>Christ Church, Bethel.</i>
Jesse Lull,	}	" <i>St. Paul's Church, Windsor.</i>
Simeon Ide,		
Noble Hard,	"	<i>St. James' Church, Arlington.</i>
Joel Doolittle,	}	" <i>St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.</i>
George Cleaveland,		
Calvin C. Waller,		
Timothy Marshall,	}	" <i>St. John's Church, Poultney.</i>
Aaron Lewis,		
Daniel Fitch,	}	" <i>Trinity Church, Pawlet.</i>
James Cook,		
Asabel Dickinson,	"	<i>Christ Church, Guilford.</i>
Thomas Prentiss,	"	<i>St. John's Church, Perkinsville.</i>



Fifth Article of the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Vermont.

"If at any time a Bishop is to be elected by this Convention, the Secretary, by order of the President or Standing Committee, shall write to the Minister or one of the Wardens of each Church, at least six weeks before the election is to take place, and give notice of the time and place appointed for such election, and request that delegates may attend the Convention for the purpose; and in every such election, the Convention shall vote in distinct orders—the Clerical order shall make a nomination by ballot, and a majority of the Lay Delegates shall approve the appointment, before the person shall be considered elected."



W. H. Hatch
JOURNAL

OF THE
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE
ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

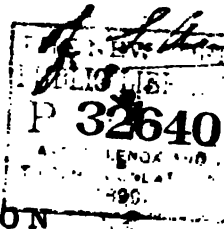
IN THE
DIOCESE OF VERMONT.

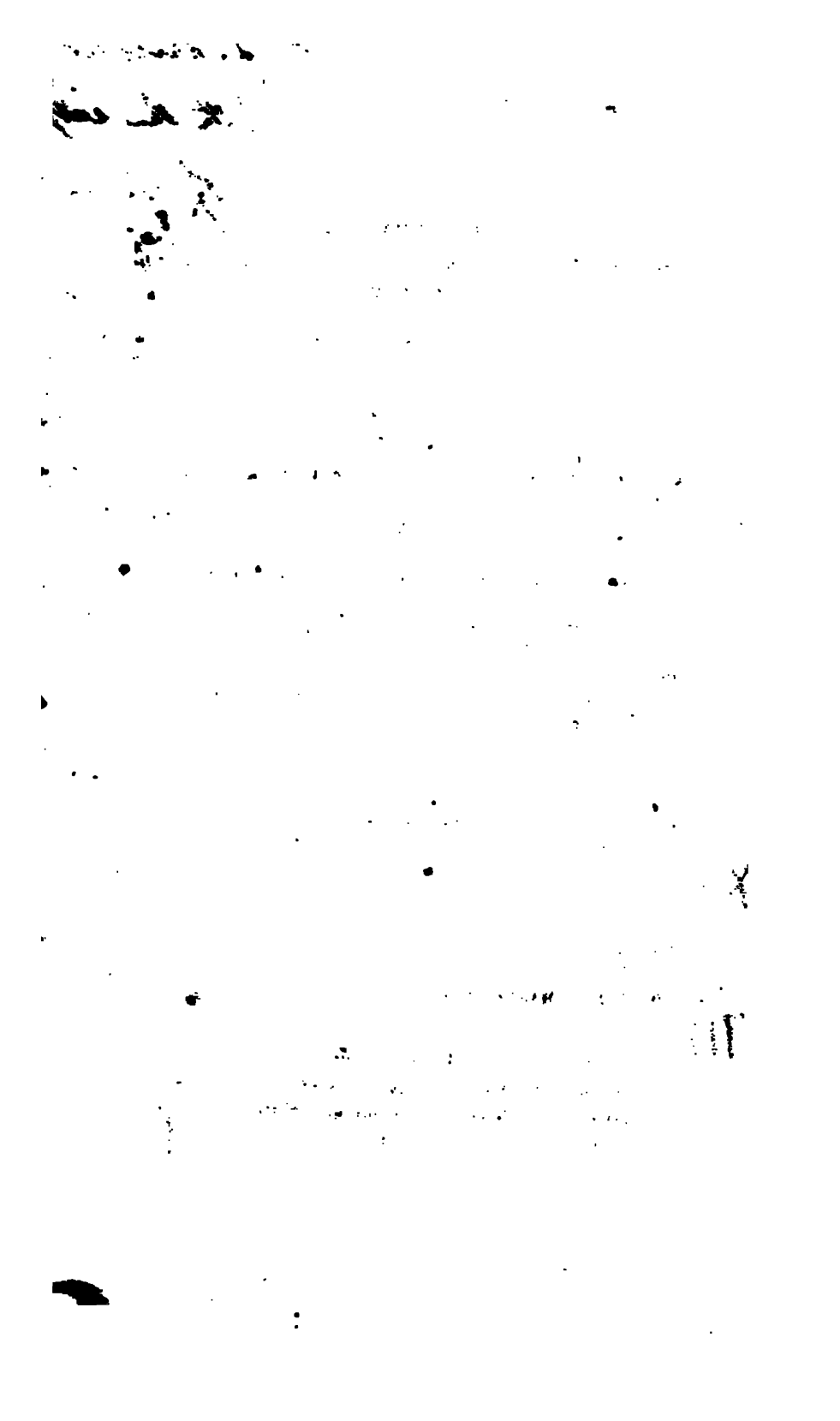
HELD IN
TRINITY CHURCH, RUTLAND,

ON THE
29TH AND 30TH OF MAY,
1833.

MIDDLEBURY:
PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CONVENTION.

.....
FREE PRESS OFFICE PRINT.





LIST OF THE CLERGY
Of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the
Diocese of Vermont.

The Right Rev. JOHN H. HOPKINS, D. D. *Bishop.*

PRESBYTERS.

The Rev. ABRAHAM BRONSON, *residing in Manchester.*

The Rev. CARLTON CHASE, *Rector of Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.*

The Rev. S. A. CRANE, *Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.*

The Rev. ANSON B. HARD, *Rector of Grace Church, Shelton, and St. John's Church, Highgate.*

The Rev. JOHN A. HICKS, *Rector of Trinity Church, Rutland.*

The Rev. WILLIAM HORTON, *Rector of St. Paul's Church, Windsor.*

The Rev. LOUIS McDONALD, *Rector of Trinity Church, Shelburn.*

The Rev. B. C. C. PARKER, *Rector of St. James' Church, Woodstock.*

The Rev. RICHARD PECK, *Rector of Calvary Church, Berkshire, and Union Church, Montgomery.*

The Rev. WILLIAM S. PERKINS, *Rector of St. James' Church, Arlington.*

X The Rev. JAMES SABINE, *Rector of Christ Church, Bethel.*

DEACONS.

The Rev. JACOB PEARSON, *Minister of Christ Church, Guilford.*

The Rev. CHARLES FAY.*

711 The Rev. JOHN T. SABINE.*—Total 15.

Candidates for Holy Orders in the Diocese of Vermont.

GEORGE ALLEN,

NATHANIEL O. PRESTON,

SAMUEL R. CRANE,

ROBINSON SMILEY,

LUMAN FOOTE,

ZADOCK THOMPSON. 6

* Ordained since the Convention.

There are twenty-five Churches belonging to this Diocese; and from the following no certificates of the appointment of Lay Delegates were received:

Christ Church, *Enosburgh*.
 Calvary Church, *Berkshire*.
 Union Church, *Montgomery*.
 St. John's Church, *Highgate*.
 Grace Church, *Sheldon*.
 Trinity Church, *Fairfield*.
 Trinity Church, *Shelburn*.
 St. Paul's Church, *Windsor*.
 Christ Church, *Guilford*.

The following Lay Delegates, whose certificates of appointment were given in to the Convention, were not present at its sittings:

ANDREW THOMPSON,	HON. JOEL DOOLITTLE,
LUMAN FOOTE,	JONATHAN HAGAR,
CHAUNCEY GOODRICH,	DORASTUS WOOSTER,
TIMOTHY F. STRONG,	NAHUM PARKER.
HON. HORATIO SEYMOUR,	

Rutland, Wednesday, May 29th, 1833.

This being the day appointed by the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Vermont for its Annual Convention, the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese, and several of the Clergy and Lay Delegates assembled, in Trinity Church, Rutland; and the Convention was duly organized at 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Hopkins took the Chair, *ex officio*.
 The Rev. S. A. Crane, Secretary.

The following Clergymen were present, and took their seats in the Convention:—

The Right Reverend JOHN H. HOPKINS, D. D. Bishop of the Diocese, and Rector of St. Paul's Church, Burlington.

The Rev. *Abraham Bronson*, residing in Manchester.

The Rev. *Carlton Chase*, Rector of Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.

The Rev. *S. A. Crane*, Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.

The Rev. *Anson B. Hard*, Rector of Grace Church, Sheldon, and St. John's Church, Highgate.

The Rev. *John A. Hicks*, Rector of Trinity Church, Rutland.

The Rev. *William Horton*, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Windsor.

The Rev. *Louis McDonald*, Rector of Trinity Church, Shelburn.

The Rev. *B. C. C. Parker*, Rector of St. James' Church, Woodstock.

The Rev. *Jacob Pearson*, Deacon, Minister of Christ Church, Guilford.

The Rev. *Richard Peck*, Rector of Calvary Church, Berkshire, and Union Church, Montgomery.

The Rev. *William S. Perkins*, Rector of St. James' Church, Arlington.

The Rev. *James Sabine*, Rector of Christ Church, Bethel.

The following Lay Delegates having presented certificates of their respective appointments, took their seats accordingly :—

Phineas Atwater,	}	from St. Paul's Church, Burlington.
Jacob Owen,		
George Allen,		

Solomon Benedict,	}	from Zion Church, Manchester.
David Dyer,		
John C. Roberts,		

Alexander Fleming,	}	from Immanuel Chr'h, Bellows Falls.
Joseph M. Webb,		

George Cleveland, from St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.

Charles K. Williams,	}	from Trinity Church, Rutland.
Jesse Gove,		
William Fay,		

John A. Pratt, from St. James' Church, Woodstock.

Sylvester Deming,	}	from St. James' Church, Arlington.
Noble Hard,		
Cyrus B. Hill,		
Martin C. Deming,		
John B. Lathrop,		

Oliver Gleason,	}	from Christ Church, Bethel.
Edmund Weston,		
John T. Sabine,		

Samuel A. Wilkins, from St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.

Samuel R. Crane, from Trinity Church, Milton.

Eleazar Lyman, }
Philo Hosford, } from St. John's Church, East Poultney.
Gershon Gifford, }

John Richardson, from Union Church, St. Albans.

Daniel Fitch, }
Thomas Crocker, } from Trinity Church, Pawlet.

John C. Hopson, Jr. }
Harvey Parks, } from St. Paul's Church, Wells.

Thomas Prentiss, from St. John's Church, Perkinsville.

Robinson Smiley, from Union Church, Springfield.

The Convention being thus organized, proceeded to business; and the Rev. S. A. Crane was chosen Secretary.

On motion by the Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and Candidates for Holy Orders in the same, who who may be in town during the session of this Convention, be, and hereby are invited to honorary seats in the same:

Whereupon, The Rev. Messrs. Hubbard, Bingham, and Barker took seats.

The following Address was then delivered to the Convention by the Right Reverend Bishop of the Diocese:

ADDRESS.

Respected and beloved Brethren in Christ—

the Clergy and Laity of this Convention:

WE are assembled together on an occasion of no common interest to the feelings of us all. We have only to look back to a time within the memory of some amongst you, when the Diocese of Vermont was almost a waste, having few traces either of physical or moral cultivation—when not one regular minister of the Church officiated within its borders—when not one organized congregation of worshippers assembled to use the language of her Liturgy—and no man dreamed of beholding on its soil a temple dedicated to the Most High God, according to her rites and usages. A generation has not yet passed away, and behold the change! The wilderness has become settled,—peopled,—fruitful. Its inhabitants have gained a character for energy, sagacity, prudence, sobriety and uprightness. Education has advanced

with rapid pace, and colleges now occupy the ground where fifty years ago the savage hunter pursued his prey. Governments and laws have established their salutary dominion; and a capital worthy of any Commonwealth is rising above a fertile valley, which was but lately covered by the forest's shade. Thousands of her children, with an enterprise altogether peculiar to our age and country, have already gone to populate the north and west, and many of those who remain may challenge a comparison with any nation, in the stronger and higher qualities of intellectual power. While, on the tide of this vast improvement, the Church has been borne along, until it has become, under the blessed guidance of its Divine Head, a respectable and independent Diocese, complete in its organization, increasing in its resources, and likely, as we trust, to perform its full share in the mighty work of evangelizing the world.

To you, my Brethren, who have been for years upon the spot, the progress of this change has probably been so gradual as to pass without any special notice. But my mind has been strongly drawn to consider it, by the circumstances which have, so unexpectedly, placed me in my present situation, and to which you will indulge me while I briefly refer. Induced to leave my residence in Western Pennsylvania, where I had spent many happy and not useless years, by the hope of serving the interests of the Church more effectually in the establishment of a Theological Seminary near Boston, I had scarcely become settled in my new abode before the separation of Vermont from the Eastern Diocese was consummated, and my name was brought forward by some of my ministerial Brethren, as worthy to fill the vacant Episcopate. To me this idea presented a copious source of perplexity and hesitation. I was surrounded by kind and partial friends, who used every argument to dissuade me from such a change; and one which was not the least frequent, was founded upon the alleged inferiority of Vermont, to the culture and refinement of Boston. And assuredly, had I considered myself at liberty to decide the matter under the influence of these arguments, by the simple dictates of my feelings or my apparent interest, I should at once have determined to decline. But I was well aware that it was an ecclesiastical question, and ought of right to be settled on ecclesiastical principles, without regard to personal choice or personal feeling. In this aspect of the case, I had but one apology, viz: the Theological Seminary which had first induced me to leave my Pennsylvanian associations; and I conceived that if this could be permanently established by my consenting to remain, it would justify me in deciding positively against the proposal of my Vermont brethren. The experiment was accordingly tried, and failed. No sufficient pledge of support could then be obtained for such an institution; and I saw myself constrained by my views of duty, to give up my new residence within a year, and settle for life in a land where I was a perfect stranger.

I need not say to you, with how deep an interest, under such circumstances, I viewed the spot which was thus unexpectedly marked out for my future labours, with how close an observation regarded, on my first visit to this state, the natural, the social, the intellectual and the religious characteristics of my future habitation,—with how personal a feeling I perused or listened to its early history, and its rapid advancement,—and with how keen a relish I saw the sterling worth, the diffused intelligence, the refinement and the hospitality of its people, as I passed along! Yes, my brethren; under such circumstances it was to have been expected that the journey of a few weeks should have concentrated the comparisons of a life-time; and since my residence among you, it gives me pleasure to add, that experience has only confirmed my satisfaction with my lot, and shewn me another example of a truth too often forgotten, that the wisdom of God provides for us far better than our own.

You will indulge me in another view of our present assembly, which invests it with more than ordinary interest. You have all probably, met, at other times, under the government of that venerable man, to whose extensive Diocese this state was, until recently, appended. For twenty years you have witnessed his untiring devotion, his apostolic labours, his meek simplicity, and his pure and consistent life and conversation. And while you call to mind his well-known worth of character, and associate with the recollection that hoary head which has grown old in piety and wisdom, you may well feel some solicitude when you look at the comparative inexperience and untried powers of his successor. Nor can I forget, my brethren, that I have been called to this always awfully responsible station, by the kind judgment of those who had no personal opportunity of knowing whom they called,—that before nine years had been spent in the labours of the ministry I have been summoned to sustain the burden of its highest and most arduous cares,—and that now I stand before a Convention of my Diocese, but slightly known, to fill the place of one who had secured, by the faithful services of so many years, your affection and your confidence.

But although these thoughts and feelings will intrude, it is perhaps best that we should give them no encouragement. The rupture of the pastoral tie, though painful, is yet wholesome for the flock of Christ, if it sends them more surely to the Great Bishop and Shepherd of their souls, who is alone worthy of all their devotion. And the assumption of high spiritual duties for which we feel our insufficiency, is not likely to injure the overseers of the fold, if it humbles us before that unchangeable God whose strength is made perfect in our weakness, and without whose blessing, Paul might plant and Apollos water, in vain.

Without dwelling longer, however, on the circumstances which render this, our first independent Convention, a period of peculiar

interest, let me turn to those subjects which more specially belong to the duties of our assembly.

And first, in obedience to the 1st Canon of the General Convention, I am bound to lay before you the affairs of the Diocese since the last Convention, the names of the Churches visited, the number of persons confirmed, the candidates for orders, the changes among the Clergy, and all other matters tending to throw light on our ecclesiastical condition.

Having received Consecration at the General Convention in New York, on the 31st of October, together with the Bishops of Kentucky, Ohio and New Jersey, I returned to Boston, and without delay, resigned my office of assistant minister of Trinity Church in that city, in pursuance of a notice given some months before, and immediately commenced my arrangements for the removal of my family to Burlington, where I had been previously appointed the Rector to succeed Dr. Chapman. I arrived at Burlington the following week, with the greater part of my family—purchased a house with about 13 acres of ground, and after officiating on Sunday at the Court-house, set out the next day on my road to Boston, in order to complete the winding up of my affairs and remove the remainder of my household. This business was accomplished in a few days, so that I was enabled to return and take up my permanent residence on the 21st day of November, having succeeded, by the blessing of Providence, in making this serious change of location, with a family of 15 souls, in three weeks from the day of my consecration, and in sufficient time to become tolerably settled before the commencement of the winter.

My first Episcopal act was the consecration of the new church at Burlington, by the name of St. Paul's, on the 25th of November, on which occasion I was assisted by my Rev. Brethren Mr. Hard of Highgate, Mr. McDonald of Shelburne, and Mr. Crane of Middlebury. The building is a very substantial edifice, of stone, in the Gothic style, and affords an uncommon proof of the zeal and liberality of the congregation and of the great acceptableness and good effect of Dr. Chapman's ministry amongst them. Indeed it was difficult to believe, when beholding such a church, & the number and order of the congregation, on that occasion, that the whole was the product of a little more than one year from their first organization. Our best friends could desire nothing more than a future increase which should bear some reasonable proportion with such a beginning.

The next Episcopal act was the confirming twenty-four persons at St. Paul's Church, Burlington, on Sunday the 23d of December, and five more on the Wednesday following. And after administering the Communion to a number, increased by the addition of twenty-one new names since the commencement of my duties, I set out, according to notices previously given, upon my first visitation, on the evening of Sunday, Dec. 30—the Rev. Mr.

McDonald taking me six miles to his parish of Trinity Church, Shelburne, in his sleigh, where I preached to an attentive congregation. From Shelburne we proceeded to Vergennes, where I found some gentlemen very friendly to the Church, and desirous to have the services of a clergyman, & reached Middlebury in time to preach at St. Stephen's Church in the evening. The next day, Tuesday, Jan. 1, 1833, I preached again after an interesting baptism of a married lady by Mr. Crane, the Rector; and after sermon, I administered confirmation to eleven persons.

Immediately after these services, I was obliged to set out for Christ Church, Bethel, 36 miles across the mountain, where I arrived late, under the kind care of Mr. Gleason, the Warden of that parish; the Rector, Mr. Sabine, being from home, and not knowing of my coming. The following day, Wednesday, Jan. 2, I preached morning and afternoon to a respectable congregation, and set out with the Rev. Mr. Parker and two gentlemen of his vestry, for St. James' Church, Woodstock.

On Thursday, Jan. 3, I preached in the afternoon, and confirmed three persons. In the evening I preached again to a much more numerous congregation, and had the pleasure of meeting at the house of the Rector, a large company of the parishioners, who spoke with much interest of the Rev. Mr. Clap, their former minister, and with great thankfulness of their satisfaction in having such a loss so soon and so happily supplied.

Friday, the 4th January, I left Woodstock in company with Rev. Mr. Horton, of Windsor.—Mr. Parker and several members of his parish kindly accompanying us to Hartland.—Here we had service, and I preached to a much larger congregation than we had anticipated. This parish is much in want of ministerial services. Our party, still accompanied by our friends from Woodstock, proceeded from Hartland to Windsor, where we arrived at St. Paul's Church in time for service at half past 2 o'clock. I preached and confirmed six persons, and in the evening I preached a second time, and spent an interesting hour afterwards at the house of Mr. Horton, in conversing with a number of his parishioners.

Saturday, Jan. 5. Rev. Mr. Barker, lately engaged to officiate at Perkinsville, having come to Windsor in order to bring me on my way, I left Windsor with him, and arrived at Perkinsville, where I preached in the evening to a respectable congregation. The church edifices both here and at Hartland, are union buildings, erected at the expense of several different denominations, but it is hoped that terms may finally be amicably agreed on, so as to avoid those unpleasant collisions which too commonly attend such arrangements.

The following morning, Sunday, the 6th January, I was conveyed to Springfield in time for morning service at the Methodist meeting-house, which was kindly granted for the occasion. The

Congregation was very large and attentive. We were shown the edifice which was nearly completed for a church, and found it a spacious and remarkably handsome building. Rev. Mr. Barker was engaged to preach there part of his time, and I have since understood that the building was completed and opened for divine service. But here also, there is a union of several denominations, the result of which is not yet ascertained.

At Springfield, the Rev. Mr. Chase of Emmanuel Church, Bellows Falls, with two gentlemen of his vestry, met me, and it was thought expedient that I should proceed with them forthwith, because the Connecticut river, in consequence of the thaw, was rising, and they doubted whether travelling would be safe after night. Being obliged on this account, to leave our friends at Springfield without preaching a second time, we proceeded to Bellows Falls, and I arrived in time to preach at night to an interesting and attentive congregation.

Monday, Jan. 7, according to appointment, I preached in the afternoon, and confirmed twenty-two persons. The recent additions to the church edifice here, had been arranged with excellent taste, and every thing was conducted in a highly gratifying manner.

The following morning, Mr. Chase accompanied me to Brattleborough, and from thence to Guilford, where I preached the next day, Wednesday the 9th, in Christ Church, to a very respectable congregation, and confirmed ten persons,—nine in the morning and one in the afternoon, who had been previously prepared, but had arrived too late for the first service. The same night I returned to Brattleborough, in company with Mr. Pierson, with whose services the congregation appeared much gratified.

Thursday, Jan. 10, I set out at 1 A. M. in the stage with Mr. Pierson, for Bennington. But after 13 miles over a very rough road, the axletree of the stage broke, which overturned it, with seven passengers.—None were hurt except Mr. Pierson, whom I strongly urged to return home by the first stage, because, being somewhat bruised by the fall, and his health not firm at best, he needed rest and care. Proceeding alone, therefore, I arrived at Bennington, and was most hospitably received by our friends there, who have not yet organized themselves into a Church, but are anxious to do so as soon as they can procure the services of a minister. Here I was met by Rev. Mr. Perkins, of Arlington, and some of his parish, and after preaching the next day, Friday, in the Congregational meeting-house, which was very kindly granted to us for the occasion, I proceeded to Arlington in time to lecture to the congregation in the commodious lecture-room of the parish, and preached in their beautiful church the following afternoon, and again at night.

Sunday, the 13th January, I preached in the morning at Arlington, and confirmed eight persons, and proceeded with Mr. Perkins to Zion Church, Manchester, where I preached and con-

firmly, and at night I lectured, by special request of Rev. Mr. Bronson, the Rector, to a moderate, but respectable congregation.

Monday, Jan. 14, set out with Mr. Bronson for Pawlet, where I preached in the afternoon at the Methodist meeting-house, which is used part of the time by our congregation there. They are under the care of Rev. Mr. Hubbard, who belongs to the Diocese of New York, and resides in Granville, having charge of both the parishes of Wells and Pawlet in this Diocese. It is much to be desired that these parishes could have a house of worship of their own.

Tuesday, Jan. 15, I proceeded with Mr. Bronson to Wells, where I preached in a union building. Mr. Hubbard was accompanied by several of our friends from Granville, who shewed by their zeal, that the unity of the Church is not affected by the bounds of Dioceses. In the afternoon we progressed as far as St. John's Church, Poultney, where we found the Rev. Mr. Bingham expecting us. This gentleman is also attached to New York, and resides at Hampton, but has charge of the parish at Poultney, which has made very great and praiseworthy efforts, under his care, to erect and complete a very handsome and commodious parish church in the Gothic style, which I examined the following day with great satisfaction.

Wednesday, Jan. 16, Rev. Mr. Hubbard, with several of his congregation, attended from Granville, and we proceeded to consecrate the new building by the name of St. John's Church, Poultney. The Rector, Mr. Moore, baptized two adults—four were confirmed, and the communion was administered to about sixty persons. The congregation was very full, and it was a highly interesting day. In the afternoon I proceeded with a gentleman of Poultney to Castleton, where there appears to be a call for the services of the Church; & from thence I went in the stage to Rutland, where I was sorry to find Rev. Mr. Hicks, the minister of the parish, seriously indisposed.

Thursday, Jan. 17, I preached in the evening at the Court-house, and the following day, Friday, I preached again to a large and attentive congregation, and confirmed eleven persons. In the afternoon I proceeded, under the kind care of a gentleman of the congregation, to Middlebury—from whence I reached home the next day, and officiated in my own parish on Sunday.

Monday, Jan. 21, I set out, according to appointment, for St. Albans, where I preached in the evening at Union Church, and confirmed six—the Rector, Mr. Nash, reading prayers. The following day, Mr. Nash, together with the Rev. Mr. Peck, and some of our friends of St. Albans, accompanied me to Highgate, where I preached; but owing to some unforeseen accident, the Rev. Mr. Hard had not received the notice sent to him, and was not at home. This was a disappointment to many, as he had a

number expecting confirmation. Returning to St. Albans, I preached again at night.

Wednesday, 23d January, we proceeded to Fairfield, where I preached and confirmed five persons, whom Mr. Nash was sufficiently acquainted with to present, as this Church has unhappily been for some time destitute of regular ministerial services. In the afternoon we proceeded to Sheldon, the other of Mr. Hard's parishes, where I preached to a respectable congregation; but here also Mr. Hard's want of notice prevented his presence and the confirmation of his candidates. All I could do under those circumstances, was to promise that I would make them another visit before the Convention. We proceeded 12 miles farther the same evening to Berkshire, one of the parishes of the Rev. Mr. Peck.

Thursday, 24th January, we proceeded to the Church at Berkshire, where I preached and confirmed fourteen persons. The congregation was very large, and the services were highly interesting. In the afternoon we rode to Montgomery, another of Mr. Peck's parishes, where I preached in the school-house and confirmed six persons. The house was crowded, and the congregation much engaged. There is a frame church erected here, but not yet finished. It is much to be desired that they may be enabled to complete it during the present season.

We returned the same night to Berkshire, and on Friday, the 25th of January, we set out for Enosburgh, where Mr. Peck also officiates. Here I preached in the Congregational meeting-house to a respectable, though not large congregation, and immediately after the service, Mr. Nash and myself leaving the meeting-house, were thrown out of the waggon, and somewhat bruised. The fall was of such a nature, in cold weather and on hard frozen ground, as might well have been expected to produce the most serious consequences to our limbs if not to our lives. But by the preserving providence of our merciful God, we were neither of us hurt dangerously--enough only to excite our gratitude, and remind us of our dependence on our Divine Protector. We arrived the same evening at St. Albans, which I left the next day for my home, feeling more than commonly indebted to the kindness of Mr. Nash, who devoted the whole week to this branch of my visitation, and, together with Mr. Peck, rendered me every attention.

Thus was completed my first visit to the whole Diocese, in every part of which I was received with the utmost cordiality. The zeal and hospitality manifested throughout was such, that it would be invidious to particularize.

In February I visited Trinity Church, Shelburne, where I preached twice, and confirmed seven persons. This parish are making a praiseworthy effort to erect a handsome parsonage for the Rev. Mr. McDonald, the Rector.

To Milton I paid two visits, baptizing and administering the

communion. There is a good prospect that ministerial aid may be obtained for our friends in this quarter ere long.

Sunday, March 31, I held a second confirmation in St. Paul's Church, Burlington, when there were sixteen persons who renewed their baptismal covenant, making altogether forty-five in that parish since the consecration of our Church.

Monday, May 20th, I held a second confirmation in St. Albans Church, which has sustained a grievous loss in the Rev. Mr. Nash, the health of whose exemplary wife has obliged him to leave an interesting and affectionate parish where he was much attached. On this occasion three persons were confirmed.

On Tuesday, the 21st of May instant, I had the satisfaction of consecrating the new Church at Highgate, by the name of St. John's, with the assistance of the Rector, the Rev. Mr. Hard, and the Rev. Mr. McDonald. This building is of brick and stone, with galleries all round, finished with great propriety and neatness, and highly creditable to the zeal and persevering liberality of the contributors. In the afternoon of the same day, I administered confirmation to seventeen persons.

On Wednesday, the 22d, I accompanied Mr. Hard to Sheldon, where I preached twice, administered the communion, and confirmed eighteen.

On Thursday, the 23d, I proceeded with Mr. Hard to Swanton Falls, where I preached to a respectable, though not numerous congregation. And in the afternoon I went on to Fairfield, by special request, where I preached to a very attentive assembly in the evening, and returned to Burlington the following day.

Leaving Burlington on Saturday the 26th, with Rev. Mr. Crane, I preached on Sunday at St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury, three times, and confirmed three persons in the afternoon. And on this day I have had the high satisfaction of consecrating to the service of Almighty God, in your presence, assisted by the assembled Clergy of the Diocese, the commodious and tasteful edifice in which we are assembled, and also confirmed seven persons—giving as the total of Episcopal services, the visitation of all our parishes once, five of them twice, consecrating four churches, and confirming two hundred and ten persons since my consecration. My next general visitation is intended to be in September and October of the present year, of which due notice to each parish will be given.

Our candidates for orders admitted during the same period are Mr. Zadock Thompson, George Allen, Esq., Mr. Robinson Smiley, formerly ordained and labouring for many years as a minister of the Congregational Church, and Mr. S. R. Crane. These, added to the former number, make a total of six. Besides which, Mr. Charles Fay has been transferred to this Diocese from Massachusetts. Some of these, it is expected, will be admitted to orders shortly.

The changes in the Diocese, since the last Convention, consist of the transfer of Mr. Clap from Woodstock, to Gardiner, in the State of Maine—Dr. Chapman from Burlington, to Portland, Maine—Mr. Nash from St. Albans, to Rhode Island; and Rev. Mr. Bronson has dissolved his connexion with Zion Church, Manchester.—With regard to this last case, I am glad to say, that the dissolution of this long-continued parochial tie, has been the result of an entirely amicable arrangement of the parties, without any imputation on either side of blame or censure, and to the satisfaction of both.

On the other hand, the Clergymen received into the Diocese are Mr. Pierson, who has taken the parish of Guilford—Mr. Parker, who has succeeded Mr Clap in Woodstock—Mr Barker, who is officiating in Perkinsville; and myself, as the successor of Dr. Chapman in Burlington. So that we have, on the whole, an increase of numbers, without adverting to those who are soon to be ordained.

By the favour of Heaven upon the labours of my brethren of the Clergy and Laity, the general spirit for the extension and establishment of the Church, appears highly encouraging. As a whole, the Diocese is prosperous and thriving. Our ministers are increasing—our churches are increasing—our candidates for orders are increasing; and the growth is of that reasonable and steady kind which seems properly to follow the increase of information amongst a reflecting people, and to promise an abiding and sure influence in favour of the doctrines and worship of our Communion.

The property of the Church lands presents no material change since the report of the last year. The Trustees and Agents of the venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, are engaged, as I believe, zealously and faithfully, in the duties of their trust; and I earnestly hope that it may not be long before the final settlement of all legal controversy to which, directly or indirectly, the Church is party. It would ill become me to interfere in any way with proceedings which were commenced and prosecuted so long before my connexion with the Diocese that I have no share whatever either in the praise or responsibility attached to them. But knowing so well as I do, that a state of litigation is a state of bitterness and discord, and that the passions excited by the legal enforcement even of the most righteous claims, are always unfavorable to the interests of religion, I cannot but express my earnest hope and prayer that the time is at hand when justice and liberality shall unite in putting an end to this cause of prejudice and agitation, and present the spiritual claims of the Church in association with no other feelings than those of benevolence and peace.

From the brief consideration of the condition of the Diocese, the transition is easy to its wants, and as it is the supply of those

wants which calls us together, they ought to form the chief subject of our solitudes and our deliberations—confident that if we do not sow, we shall not reap—that if we do not faithfully examine, and zealously administer to the necessities of the Church, we cannot expect the increase.

In the arrangement of this topic, my brethren, the general claims of the Church first invite our attention. The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society has at length secured the services of an Agent, who is instructed to visit all the Dioceses, and make collections and form parochial associations wherever it may be deemed expedient. You will judge how far it may be advisable for this Convention to pass a resolution recommending the object to the several parishes. Assuredly the wants of such a society have a strong claim upon us, and I should deeply regret that we should be found deficient in a due effort for their supply.

The General Theological Seminary is another of the institutions of the Church to which it is not easy to look with too high regard. Our cardinal defect is a defect of ministers. And few charities could be better directed than those which should increase the usefulness of an establishment which has already cost so much time, zeal and substance—which is furnished with able and experienced Professors—and which has sent, and is continually sending forth so many qualified labourers into the Vineyard of the Gospel.

But it seems our special duty, in our diocesan capacity, to remember, that our general institutions cannot supersede the necessity for local measures, by which the wants of each Diocese may be provided for in part, if not chiefly, by its own resources. And on some effectual mode of doing this, we must mainly, under God, depend, if we would ever see the Church extended, as her claims deserve, throughout our country.

Permit me then, my beloved brethren, specially to commend to your attention, the formation of a general fund for domestic and diocesan purposes, with which we can put into train the supply of our local deficiencies, and urge on the good work committed to our care.

The objects for which such a fund, placed at the control of this Convention, might be most wisely and usefully expended, are many. The providing for theological education—the supporting a certain number of missionaries to preach in vacant places, and gather congregations throughout the Diocese—the publishing such useful tracts and books for our parish libraries, or the use of our Sunday Schools, as might be thought expedient—the assisting feeble parishes to build churches or support their ministers, and the granting such support to superannuated clergymen, or to their orphan children, as might be deemed expedient:—For all these, or for any deserving object connected with the spiritual interests of those committed to our charge, there would always be sufficient

demand to keep our best judgments and our kindest feelings in exercise, so that no man attending our Convention should ever return to his home without an interesting account of the blessed fruits of parochial zeal, and ecclesiastical union.

On the subject of candidates for the ministry, I have long been firmly persuaded, that if pious parents, and especially the Clergy of our Church, saw it to be their duty to devote their sons to God for the work of the ministry, and could either afford so much personal care, or could place them under such associations as would be likely, by the blessing of the Almighty, to cherish the principles of religion in their youthful hearts, there would be no lacking of sufficient numbers of spiritual labourers, and those of the best kind. Acting on the principle for many years as a presbyter, I felt it doubly my duty in my present office, and accordingly I have enlarged my dwelling at considerable expense for the purpose of accommodating my own sons, and the sons of several of my friends, with a limited domestic seminary, on a strictly scriptural plan, which I hope will, in due time, produce some candidates whose labours will do no discredit to their training. In all this it has not been forgotten that the success of such a design must rest solely on the Divine blessing. We must use the means if we would attain the promise; but God forbid that we should ever forget our dependence on Him, without whom, nothing is strong—nothing holy; and whose incommunicable prerogative it is to order aright the unruly wills and affections of sinful men.

At the same time, I have thought it my bounden duty to make such provision as I could for the theological education of those who may not be able, or disposed to enter the General Seminary, by erecting on the other side of my dwelling, a room of the proper size and finish for lectures to theological students, and the delivery of such discourses and other exercises as are fitted to qualify them for their sacred calling. And I wish it to be understood that until better arrangements for the purpose can be made, I shall cheerfully give a portion of my house, my time, and my library, to those whose hearts are led to honor their Redeemer by devoting their lives to the ministry of his word. It will be for you, my respected brethren, to say, in your conventional and parochial capacity; how far those preparations, under God, shall avail; for unless pious and talented young men can be found in our several parishes, and supported while pursuing their studies either by their friends or by the Church, no arrangement in my power can have any extensively useful application.

I am aware of but one topic more, specially bearing upon our own Diocese, which will probably demand your attention. It is the revision of our Constitution and Canons, which it may be advisable to have referred to a committee, to report at the next Convention. There were some alterations however, proposed by the last General Convention, which, by the 8th Article of the Consti-

tation, require to be laid before you, and which I shall place for that purpose in the hands of the Secretary.

And now my brethren, I hasten to close my address, already unexpectedly protracted. Suffer me, in conclusion, to remind you that we are an ecclesiastical body, assembled to watch over and promote the welfare and prosperity of a portion of that Universal Church, which is called the Spouse, the Body, and the Spiritual Temple of the Great Redeemer. Let this recollection regulate and direct all our deliberations. Difficult, if not impossible it is, to limit the importance of the influence committed, in this respect, to our control. And it is no easy matter to watch ourselves so closely that we forget not the feelings of the *Oration* in the warmth of disputation. Argument has a natural tendency to provoke the waywardness of human nature, and requires the constant discipline of self-distrust, that no violation of order—no want of courtesy—no deficiency in the spirit of kind and fraternal allowance, give occasion for present uneasiness or future regret. May the Holy Spirit who presided in the councils of the blessed Apostles, be indeed present with us—save us from all error, ignorance, pride and prejudice, and so direct and sanctify and govern us in our work, as may be best calculated in His sight, to promote the welfare of His Church and the advancement of His glory.

On motion, The Rev. Messrs. Bronson and Chase, the Hon. Charles K. Williams, and Sylvester Deming, Esq. were appointed a Committee on that part of the Bishop's Address, which relates to a Diocesan Fund; and to report to this Convention.

On motion, The Rev. Messrs. Crane, Chase and Sabine, and Messrs. S. A. Wilkins and George Allen were appointed a Committee to revise the Constitution and Canons of this Diocese, and to report to the next Annual Convention.

On motion, The Rev. Messrs. Hicks, Bronson, Parker and Chase, and the Hon. C. K. Williams, were appointed a Committee on that part of the Bishop's Address, which relates to education for the ministry, and to report thereon to this Convention.

On motion, The Rev. Mr. Crane, and Messrs. Samuel R. Crane, Edmund Weston and Sylvester Deming, were appointed a Committee to consider the amendment of the Constitution proposed at the last Convention, relative to the time of holding the Annual Convention of the Diocese. and to report thereon to this Convention.

Nathaniel Tucker, Esq. presented his testimonials, and took his seat in the Convention as a Lay Delegate from Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.

The Rev. Messrs. Abraham Bronson, Carlton Chase, John A. Hicks and William Horton, and Messrs. George Cleveland, Thomas Leland, Artemas Robbins and George Allen, were appointed Delegates from this Diocese to the General Convention, for the year ensuing.

On motion of George Cleveland, Esq., It was voted to adjourn until to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

THURSDAY, May 30, 1833.

The Convention met according to adjournment. Morning Prayer was read by the Rev. B. C. C. Parker;—after which, the proceedings of yesterday were read & approved.

The Chairman of the Committee appointed to consider the amendment of the Constitution, proposed at the last Convention, relative to the time of holding the Annual Convention of the Diocese, presented the following Report :

Your Committee having deliberated upon the matter submitted to them; and considering that the whole subject of the Constitution and Canons is now in the hands of a Committee for revision and report at the next Annual Convention, are of opinion that it is not expedient to act upon the proposed amendment until the report of the Committee on the Constitution and Canons shall have been received.

S. A. CRANE, *Chairman.*

Whereupon, on motion, The report was accepted; and the further consideration of the subject postponed to the next Convention, and until the Committee on the Constitution and Canons shall have reported.

The President communicated to the Convention the following letter addressed to him by the Secretary of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies at the last General Convention :

NEW YORK, May 7, 1833.

To the Rt. Rev. Bishop Hopkins,—

RT. REV. SIR,—The 50th Canon of our Church makes it the duty of the Secretary of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, whenever any alteration of the Constitution is proposed, or any other subject submitted to the consideration of the several Dioc-

san Conventions, to give a particular notice thereof to the Ecclesiastical authority of this Church, in every Diocese. In compliance with these requisitions, I take this opportunity respectfully to transmit to you the following notice of matters submitted by the late General Convention to the consideration of the Diocesan conventions, viz :

1. *Resolved*, the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies concurring, That it be made known to the several Diocesan Conventions, that it is hereby proposed for adoption at the next General Convention, to insert the following Rubric after the "Prayer to be used at the meetings of Convention :—" "During the period of the session of any General or Diocesan Convention, the above Prayer may be used by all congregations of this Church or of the Diocese concerned ;" the clause "*here assembled in thy name and presence,*" being changed to "*now assembled in thy name and presence ;*" and the clause "*govern us in our present work,*" to "*govern them in their present work.*"

Resolved, the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies concurring, That it be made known to the several Diocesan Conventions, that it is hereby proposed for adoption at the next General Convention, to insert the said Prayer and Rubric at the end of the "Prayers upon several occasions, to be used before the two final Prayers of morning and evening service." (See Journal of the General Convention, 1832, pp. 92 and 57.)

2. *Resolved*, That with the concurrence of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, it be made known to the Conventions of the several Dioceses, that it is hereby proposed to alter the Rubric before the "Selections of Psalms," so as to read, "The following Selections of Psalms, or any one or more Psalms, or any portions of the 119th Psalm in the Psalter, may be used instead of the Psalms for the day at the discretion of the minister." And that the fourth paragraph of the "Order how the Psalter is appointed to be read," be erased. (See Journal of General Convention, 1832, pp. 92 and 94.)

3. *Resolved*, the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies concurring, That it be made known to the Conventions of the several Dioceses, that it is hereby proposed to alter the last Rubric before the Communion Service, by substituting the word "right" for the word "north." (See Journal of General Convention, 1832, pp. 93 and 94.)

A true copy of the above Resolutions, as concurred in by both Houses in General Convention, October, 1832.

Attest,

HENRY ANTHON,
Sec'y of the H. of C. & L. D.

Rt. Rev. Bishop HOPKINS.

The Secretary of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies respectfully solicits an early attention on the part of the different Dioceses that have not yet paid their respective quotas to the reso-

lutions which were passed at the close of the session of the General Convention. (See Journal of House of Deputies, pp. 54, 65.) The debt incurred by the publication of the Journal, Pastoral Letter, Canons, &c. amounts to nearly 800 dollars.

HENRY ANTHON, Sec'y.

On motion by the Rev. Mr. Bronson,

Resolved, That the Secretary, as Treasurer of the Contingent Fund, be, and he hereby is, directed to transmit to the Secretary of the General Convention, the sum of one dollar for each Clergyman in the Diocese, in compliance with the call of said General Convention.

(See Journal of Gen. Con. 1832, p. 65.)

The Report of the Prudential Committee was read, accepted, and ordered to be published in the Journal of the Convention.

To the Convention of the Diocese of Vermont:

The subscriber, in making a Report for the Prudential Committee, regrets his limited acquaintance with the subject submitted to that Committee—he having yesterday, for the first time, been informed of his appointment. He would, however, state, that the remaining demands against the Agents of “the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts,” are more than two thousand dollars;—that they are gradually increasing; & that the Agents are resolved to pay them all off, as soon as the avails of the lands shall enable them to do it, in accordance with the plan which they have adopted of making small annual allowances in aid of the several parishes in the Diocese.—The past year, they have given fifty dollars to each Parish, or to each association of Parishes, having a Clergyman.—Since the last Report, several suits have been settled,—some new ones have been commenced,—some lands have been given up without suits; and in two or three instances, the Society was non-suit—~~the~~ Court not having jurisdiction,—the lands not being valued at five hundred dollars. The lands not yet recovered are principally in the Counties of Bennington, Windham, and Windsor; and I am instructed to say, that for the recovery of these and all others, it is the intention of the Agents, if necessary, to commence suits the present year.

JOHN A. PRAATT,

for the Prudential Committee.

Parochial Reports, as required by the 51st Canon of the last General Convention, were received and read ;—after which,

On motion by the Rev. Mr. Bronson, it was

Resolved, That the Secretary be, and hereby is, directed to prepare and publish in the Journal, a condensed view of the state of each Church, predicated on the Parochial Reports now laid before the Convention.*

PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

St. Paul's Church, Burlington.

The Right Reverend John H. Hopkins, Rector.

Since the 25th of Nov. last, baptisms, 19—(adults 15, infants 4)—persons confirmed, 45,—Communicants added, 30—whole number, 85,—marriages 2, and burials 2. Sunday School, about 70 : The general plan upon which it is conducted, is, to give the Collect and the Gospel for the day to be committed by the scholars, together with the Catechism and selections of metre Psalms and Hymns ; and the Rector lectures every Friday evening, to the teachers, on the same portions of the Scripture and Liturgy, which they explain on the following Sunday to the scholars. A regular expository lecture is also delivered every Wednesday evening in the Church. The congregation is gradually increasing ; and it is believed that in all respects, both temporal and spiritual, there is much ground for encouragement, and humble gratitude for our present situation and future prospects.

Zion Church, Manchester.

The Reverend Abraham Bronson, late Rector.

Baptized, 1—buried, 1—confirmed, 8—Communicants, 55. This Church has been much weakened by removals the past year. Its connexion with its minister has also been recently dissolved.

*The Secretary finding that the degree to which he was expected to condense the Parochial Reports, was differently understood by members of the Convention, and not finding it easy to satisfy his own mind of the true meaning of the resolution, has thought it the safer way to insert the Reports nearly as they were given in.

Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.

The Reverend Carlton Chase, Rector.

Baptisms, 8, (adults 3, children 5,)—confirmed, 22—marriages, 2—deaths, 4—Communicants, 86.—Sunday School, about 80.—Sunday School Library, 330, and Parish Library, 230 volumes. Within the last year an important addition has been made to the church edifice. The Society of Ladies have made their second payment to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church, on "Mr. Greenleaf's plan," besides other appropriations to the amount of forty dollars.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.

The Reverend S. A. Crane, Rector.

Baptisms, 12, (adults 3, children 9,)—burials, 6—marriages, 3—confirmed, 14—Communicants, died 1, removed 2, added 8; present number, 54.—Sunday School, about 40. Within the last year, the Ladies of this Church have, by persevering zeal and industry, raised about 350 dollars for its benefit.

Christ Church, Bethel.

The Reverend James S. , Rector.

Baptisms, 7, (adults 2, children 5,)—marriages, 3—Communicants, 90.—Sunday School, 30.—Bible Class, 20.

St. Paul's Church, Windsor.

The Reverend William Horton, Rector.

Baptisms, 2—funerals, 2—marriages, 4—confirmed, 5—Communicants, 60.—Sunday School, 60.—Missionary collection, 50 dollars.

St. James' Church, Woodstock.

The Reverend B. C. C. Parker, Rector.

Since December last, baptisms 7---funerals, 4---confirmed, 3---Communicants added, 2---Sunday School, about 50. Parish Library established since last January, 480 volumes.

Trinity Church, Shelburn.

The Reverend Louis McDonald, Rector.

Baptisms, 4—marriages, 6—funerals, 9—confirmed, 7—Communicants added, 6,—removed, 45—present number, 76. This parish has taken measures for the erection of a Parsonage, which will not cost less than 1300 dollars. The building is of brick, and when completed, will be the result of great effort and commendable liberality on the part of this society.

St. John's Church, Highgate.

The Reverend Anson B. Hard, Rector.

Baptisms, 14—funerals, 4—Communicants added, 26—whole number, 32.—Sunday School, 35. This Church was July organized on the 17th of last July. The church edifice was consecrated the 21st of May, 1833.

Grace Church, Sheldon.

The Reverend Anson B. Hard, Rector.

Baptisms, 18—funerals, 3—Communicants, died and removed, 16—added, 16—present number, 91.

Union Church, St. Albans.

Families, 36—baptisms, 9, (adults 5, children 4)—funerals, 4—confirmed, 9—Communicants, 55.

Calvary Church, Berkshire.

The Reverend Richard Peck, Rector.

Baptisms, 7—funerals, 6—confirmed, 14—Communicants added, 3—suspended, 1—removed, 13—present number, 100.—Sunday School, 40. A good bell has been purchased for this Church, during the past year.

Union Church, Montgomery.

The Reverend Richard Peck, Rector.

Baptisms, 13—marriages, 2—funerals, 2—confirmed, 6—Communicants added, 3—removed, 3—suspended, 1—whole number, 70.—Sunday School, 50.

Christ Church, Enosburgh.

The Reverend Richard Peck, Rector.

Communicants, 8.

St. James' Church, Arlington.

The Reverend William S. Perkins, Rector.

Baptisms, 10, (adults 2, children 8,)—marriages, 4—deaths, 6—confirmed, 8—Communicants added, 13—whole number, 100.—Bible Class and Sunday School in operation. The Missionary Association has contributed 30 dollars to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society. Since last Convention this Church has been furnished with an excellent organ, the liberal donation of one man.

Christ Church, Guilford.

The Reverend Jacob Pearson, Minister.

Baptisms, 3, (1 adult, 2 infants,)—burials, 5—confirmed, 10—Communicants added, 10—present number, 50.—Sunday School, 50.—One Missionary Society. The Rev. Mr. Pearson took charge of this Church in August last.

St. John's Church, Poultney.

The Reverend Moore Bingham, of the Diocese of New York, Minister.

Baptisms, 14, (adults 4, children 10,)—funerals, 2—marriages, 2—Communicants added, 5—removed, 8—present number, 40.—There are a Bible Class and Sunday School. The Bible, Prayer Book, Tract, Missionary and Female Charitable Associations continue their operations; and there is also a small Parish Library. The Rev. Mr. Bingham also reports, that in the fall of 1831, he preached two Sundays in West Rutland, and visited them a few times for a like purpose on other days. On these occasions, he baptized 5, (one child and 4 adults,) and admitted 7 to the Communion.

Trinity Church, Rutland.

The Reverend John A. Hicks, Rector.

Baptisms, 9, (adults 6, children 3,)—marriages, 2—confirmed, 17—Communicants, 20.—There are a Bible Class and Sunday School. During the last year this Society has erected a handsome and commodious Church; and the Rector is happy in being able to add, that by a commendable liberality on the part of the people, all the expenses of building, furnishing, and also of purchasing an organ, are already provided for. From the success which has at-

The Committee on the Diocesan Fund respectfully recommend, as the best mode of raising money for that object, that the several Parishes of the Diocese be requested to raise money annually, according to their ability, in such way as they shall think most effectual; and to pay it over to the Treasurer of the Convention at the annual meeting, to constitute a Fund, which may be appropriated by order of the Convention, with the approbation of the Bishop, to the support of Missionaries, to the education of young men for the Ministry, and to such other purposes as shall be thought most useful to the Church.

ABRAHAM BRONSON, *Chairman.*

On motion, *Resolved*, That the next Annual Convention be held in St. Paul's Church, Burlington.

On motion by the Rev. Mr. Parker,

Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of this Convention be hereby presented to our respected friends of the Episcopal Church in Rutland, for the very kind and ready hospitality exhibited by them in their reception and entertainment of the members of the Convention, during its present session.

The minutes of the proceedings were then read and approved.

There being no further business before the Convention, on motion of Mr. Cleveland, it was *resolved* to adjourn; whereupon, after singing a part of the 122nd Psalm, and Prayers, and the Benediction by the Bishop, the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

JOHN H. HOPKINS, D. D.

Ex officio, President of the Convention

Attest,

S. A. CRANE.

Secretary.

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JOURNAL

OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

IN THE

DIOCESE OF VERMONT,

HELD IN

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, BURLINGTON,

ON THE

28TH AND 29TH MAY, 1884.

BURLINGTON:

EDWARD SMITH.

1884.



LIST OF THE CLERGY

OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH, IN THE DIOCESE OF
VERMONT.

THE RIGHT REV. JOHN H. HOPKINS, D. D. BISHOP.

PRESBYTERS.

- The Rev. CARLTON CHASE**, Rector of Immanuel Church,
Bellows Falls.
The Rev. S. A. CRANE, Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.
The Rev. ANSON B. HARD, Rector of Grace Church, Sheldon,
and St. John's Church, Highgate.
The Rev. JOHN H. HICKS, Rector of Trinity Church, Rutland.
The Rev. WILLIAM HORTON, Rector of St. Paul's Church,
Windsor.
The Rev. LOUIS McDONALD, Rector of Calvary Church,
Berkshire, Christ Church, Enosburgh, and Union Church,
Montgomery.
The Rev. LUMAN FOOTE, Rector of St. John's Church, Arlington.
The Rev. JAMES SABINE, Rector of Christ Church, Bethel.
The Rev. JACOB PEARSON, Rector of Christ Church, Guilford.
The Rev. CHARLES FAY, Officiating at St. Paul's Church,
Vergennes, and Trinity Church, Milton.
The Rev. B. C. C. PARKER, Rector of St. James' Church,
Woodstock.
-

DEACONS.

- The Rev. SAMUEL R. CRANE**,
The Rev. GEORGE ALLEN,
The Rev. JOHN T. SABINE. Total 15.

Candidates for Holy Orders in the Diocese of Vermont.

ZADOCK THOMPSON,
NATHANIEL O. PRESTON.

There are twenty five Churches belonging to this Diocese ; and from the following no certificates of the appointment of Lay Delegates were received.

Trinity Church, *Rutland*.
 Christ Church, *Enosburgh*.
 Union Church, *Montgomery*.
 St. Paul's Church, *Wells*.
 Union Church, *Springfield*.
 Zion Church, *Manchester*.
 St. James' Church, *Woodstock*.

BURLINGTON, WEDNESDAY, *May 28, 1834.*

This being the day appointed by the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Vermont, for its Annual Convention, the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese, and several of the Clergy and Lay Delegates assembled, in St. Paul's Church, Burlington, at 9 o'clock A. M. ; and the Convention was duly organized.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Hopkins took the chair, *ex officio*.
 The Rev. S. A Crane, Secretary.

The following Clergymen were present, and took their seats in the Convention :—

The Rt. Rev. JOHN H. HOPKINS, D. D. Bishop of the Diocese, and Rector of St. Paul's Church, Burlington.

The Rev. *Calton Chase*, Rector of Immanuel Church, *Bellows Falls*.

The Rev. *S. A. Crane*, Rector of St. Stephens' Church, *Middlebury*.

The Rev. *Anson B. Hard*, Rector of Grace Church, *Sheldon*, and St. John's Church, *Highgate*.

The Rev. *John A. Hicks*, Rector of Trinity Church, *Rutland*.

The Rev. *William Horton*, Rector of St. Paul's Church, *Windsor*.

The Rev. *Louis McDonald*, Rector of Calvary Church, *Berkshire*, Union Church, *Montgomery*, and Christ Church, *Enosburgh*.

The Rev. *Jacob Pearson*, Rector of Christ Church, *Guilford*.

The Rev. *Luman Foote*, Rector of St. James' Church, *Arlington*.

The Rev. *James Sabine*, Rector of Christ Church, *Bethel*.

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The Rev. Charles Fay, Officiating at St. Paul's Church, Vergennes, and Trinity Church, Milton.

The Rev. Samuel R. Crane, Deacon.

The Rev. George Allen, Deacon.

The Rev. John T. Sabine, Deacon.

The following Lay Delegates having presented certificates of their respective appointments, took their seats accordingly :—

Thomas Hockley, Richard G. Cole, Justus Burdick, Chauncey Goodrich, Phineas Atwater, Jacob Owen,	}	from St. Paul's Church, Burlington.
Henry F. Green,		from Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.
George Cleveland, Nathan Parker,	}	from St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.
Sylvester Demming, Cyrus B. Hills,	}	from St. James' Church, Arlington.
Oliver Gleason,		from Christ Church, Bethel.
John B. Lovell, Wm. T. Ward,	}	from St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.
Isaac I. Potter,		from Grace Church, Sheldon.
Luther Foote,		from St. Paul's Church, Windsor.
Jephthah Bradley, Joseph Blake,	}	from Trinity Church, Fairfield.
Raymond Hotchkiss, David C. Blossom,	}	from Trinity Church, Pawlet.
George Draper, Abel Houghton, S. P. Eastman, A. O. Aldis,	}	from Union Church, St. Albans.
Rollin Marshall, Aaron Lewis, Philo Hosford,	}	from St. John's Church, Poultney.
John Marsh,		from St. John's Church, Perkinsville.
Warren Hill,		from Trinity Church, Milton.
David B. Blakely,		from Calvary Church, Berkshire.
Nehemiah Saxton, Asa Lyon 2d, Horace Saxton, George Cloyes, Bela Chittenden,	}	from Trinity Church, Shelburne.
John Phelps,		from Christ Church, Guilford.
Caleb Mead,		from St. John's Church, Highgate.

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The Convention then proceeded to business ; and the Rev. S. A. Crane was re-elected Secretary.

On motion by the Rev. Mr. Chase, the Rev. Charles Fay was chosen assistant Secretary.

On motion by the Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church and of the Church of England, and Candidates for orders not members of this Convention, who may be in town during its session be, and hereby are, respectfully invited to honorary seats.

Whereupon, The Rev. John Cochran, assistant minister, St. John's, Lower Canada, the Rev. Moore Bingham of the Diocese of New York, and the Rev. Mr. Jewett of the Diocese of Connecticut, took seats in the Convention.

The Convention was then adjourned to attend Divine Service at half past 10 o'clock, A. M. ; and was then again adjourned to meet in the same place at half past 3, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, May 28, half past three, P. M. Convention met according to adjournment.

On motion by the Rev. James Sabine,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to consider the application of an Episcopal Society in Randolph, for admission into this Diocese ; and to report to this Convention.

Committee nominated by the President, viz :

The Rev. James Sabine,

The Rev. Carlton Chase,

The Rev. William Horton.

The following address was then delivered to the Convention by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese.

ADDRESS.

MY BELOVED FRIENDS AND BRETHREN,

In addressing you upon this occasion, when the second Convention of our youthful Diocese has assembled together, I have conceived that it was my duty to lay before you some general views of the character and true design of our ecclesiastical institutions, before I enter upon the details of my last visitation.

My motives in selecting this for my leading subject are twofold. The experience of the past year has taught me that the portion of our Divine Master's vineyard in which he has cast my lot, stands greatly in need of correct information in regard to the principles of the Episcopal Church. Many well meaning persons, whose researches after truth might have been fairly expected to lead them to a very different conclusion, have adopted and disseminated the erroneous idea, that the Church is monarchical in her constitution, monarchical in her feelings, and monarchical in her tendency. Nay, they have been so far misled as to imagine that the genius and spirit of our system are positively hostile to the republican institutions of our country. While, on the other hand, there are some amongst ourselves by no means familiar with the true character of the Church of their adoption, and who, therefore, in defending her from this scandalous accusation, are apt to make too light of her real peculiarities, and thus fall into a still greater error. I call this a greater error than the first, because it is certainly of far less importance to us to be misunderstood, and therefore misrepresented, by strangers, than to have the slightest approach to disunion or mistake amongst our own friends. Grant me, therefore, my brethren, your attention, while I endeavor, with as much simplicity and brevity as possible, to set before you the true spirit and nature of the Government of the Church.

Our peculiar title, in this country, is the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States. We are not the Church of England, nor a part of the Church of England. So far, indeed, are we from having any connexion with that Church, that when our clergy visit England, they are not allowed to preach in the churches of the Establishment. True, however, it is, that we are descended from that Church, and have inherited from our beloved and venerated Mother all her doctrines and principles, except those which relate to political government and to the connexion between Church and State. In these respects we have expressly departed from the principles of the Church of England, and have as expressly adopted the principles of these United States. Witness the omission in our articles of those particulars which relate to the British Government, and the substituting in our prayers, the regular supplications for the President, the officers of State, the House of Representatives, and the Senate of the Union. With what truth, therefore, can any man assert, that we hold political partialities or political principles favorable to Great Britain and hostile to Republicanism, when the Title of our Church, the language of our articles, and, above all, the standing order of our public worship prove our faithful adherence to the republican institutions of this country, and when the severance of our Church from the Church of England is so total and entire, that our clergy are prohibited from preaching in that country, by positive act of Parliament.

But we have acknowledged that our Church has descended from the Church of England. True, and our whole nation and national system of government have descended from the same source. There was a time when our Church was a part of the Church of England. True, and there was a time when our nation was a collection of English colonies. But the revolution cut asunder the bond of connexion in political government, and our country set up her own independent banner, retaining all that she approved in the British system, and casting aside the rest in favor of the republican form. And immediately after this revolution was achieved in politics, our Church followed it by an act of correspondent independence in her ecclesiastical condition. Our first minister at the Court of St. James was requested to ask, whether the English Bishops might be allowed to continue the Episcopal succession by

consecrating three Bishops for this country without exacting the usual oath of allegiance to the King, and an act of Parliament was magnanimously passed to authorize it, by virtue of which three American Clergymen were consecrated Bishops accordingly. This was the final close of our connexion with the Church of England; and our ecclesiastical independence was thereby completed as perfectly as our political independence had been achieved before. The only difference being this, namely, that the political freedom of our country was obtained by force, but the ecclesiastical independence of our Church was brought about, as every similar act should be amongst the professed followers of the Prince of Peace, by mutual consent and agreement.

To this simple statement we add but two facts; first, that our whole independence, as a Church, was effected within six years after the declaration of peace, so as to enable us to frame our new ecclesiastical Constitution at a general Convention which met at the city of Philadelphia, in October 1789; secondly, that, to say nothing of Hamilton, Jay, or Morris, General Washington himself was an Episcopalian, and the Chaplain to the American Congress, during the revolutionary war, was that venerable Dr. William White, who was afterwards consecrated Bishop of Pennsylvania, and who has long been regarded as the Patriarch of the Church. It cannot fail to excite a mingled emotion of astonishment and sorrow, that in the face of these well known and recorded facts, such slanderous and false accusations should be brought against us of being identified with the Church of England, and holding principles hostile to republicanism. That forty nine years ago, an Episcopalian warrior achieved the independence of these States, and took the helm of the government as its first President,—that during the darkest periods of the fearful struggle, an Episcopalian minister was the selected officer, who, as the Chaplain to Congress, invoked the blessing of the God of wisdom on their counsels, and the God of battles on their arms,—that forty five years have elapsed since the perfect organization of the Episcopalians of the United States under their own peculiar name and constitution,—that, from the year 1789 to the present hour, there has not been the slightest ecclesiastical intercourse or connexion between our Church and the Church of England, so that our clergy

are even prohibited by law from preaching in that country,—that in sober truth there is hardly a religious denomination in the United States that does not maintain some intercourse with the like denomination in Europe except our own,—that there is no other which compels her ministers to pray for the officers of this Republic, whenever they meet for public worship,—and yet, that in the very teeth of these indisputable facts, men should be found bold enough to say that our Church is united with the Church of England, and is hostile to the republican institutions of the country—this, we do acknowledge, fills us with surprise and grief, as a melancholy proof of the power of prejudice in closing the eyes to the light of truth, and hardening the heart against the claims of Christian justice.

We do not, however, in defending the Church from this unjust aspersion, mean to assert that any form of Civil government is connected with her ESSENTIAL principles. This would not be true of any denomination of Christians, for all acknowledge the great maxim laid down by the Divine Head of the Church, when he said to Pilate, 'MY KINGDOM IS NOT OF THIS WORLD.' Hence it follows, that not only our own, but almost every other body of professing Christians, may be found under different forms of civil government without any change in their religious principles. Thus the Methodists in England are monarchists, so are the Baptists of that country, so are the Congregationalists, so are the Presbyterians. Nay, in Scotland, as you all know, the established Church is Presbyterian, and, therefore, in all reason, the monarchical tenets of the Scottish Kirk ought to have the same influence against the Presbyterians of the United States, as the political allegiance of the Church of England seems to have excited in some minds against ourselves. Nor would the application of this shallow argument rest here; for the German Lutherans must equally suffer by it. Their Church is established in connexion with a kingly government in Prussia, Denmark, Sweden; and other places; and hence it is just as conclusively proved by our adversaries, that this highly respectable body in our own country must also stand opposed to our republican institutions. Now if the argument be thus applied in the case of every other denomination, whatever we might think of its force, we should, at least, have no peculiar ground of com-

plaint. But the moment we show how far the reasoning might, in strict justice, be carried, every mind can see its absurdity. No man denies, that the Pilgrim fathers were monarchists, as well as Congregationalists; and their descendants continued to unite monarchy with Congregationalism, for many generations, when the revolution changed their civil government, while their religious government remained the same. No man denies, that the English and Scotch Presbyterians were monarchists, when they first set up the Presbyterian system in this country. With them, too, the revolution only operated to change their political relations, leaving their religion as it was before. The same assertion applies to the Baptists, the Methodists, and, in a word, to all, except the few trifling sects which have sprung up within the last half century. By what strange method of proceeding, then, is the English Episcopalian deprived of the universal privilege of changing his politics, while he preserves his religion? What more intimate connexion is there between religion and politics with us, than there is between religion and politics with other men? The truth is, that since the time of the Jewish Theocracy, there never has been any such connexion exhibited, either in theory or in practice, unless in a few wild attempts, such as those of the Anabaptists of Munster and the Puritans of England, which were not calculated to settle down into any thing like a regular system. In general, the principle has been strongly and fairly upheld, that religion was a peculiar and spiritual concern, not only distinct from forms of civil polity, but perfectly indifferent as to what might be the characteristic of any government, whether Monarchy, Aristocracy, Oligarchy, or Democracy, so long as the sword of persecution was not raised against the cross of Christ, and men were protected in the right to worship God according to the dictates of their conscience. And beyond all question, such ought always to be the character of the Redeemer's kingdom. As CHRISTIANS, therefore, we have nothing to do with the politics of any government, though it is our bounden duty to pray for that under which we live. Christianity, as a divine and spiritual system, bears no particular relation to any peculiar form of civil polity; and woe be to the proper influence of its spirit, when the choice of our Church, instead of

being directed by the word of God, is degraded to a mere question of political expediency.

This brings us to consider the distinctive character of the Protestant Episcopal Church, what are its principles of government, and why these principles have been adopted. These subjects, my brethren, do certainly deserve to be fully understood by all. Let me try, in the brief space of this address, to set them plainly before you.

The Church of Christ, in the Old Testament Scriptures, presents an emblem of the government of God, under the gracious and affectionate aspect of a Father. Hence it is neither monarchical, nor aristocratic, nor republican, but Patriarchal. It is clear that no other government than this appears to have been sanctioned until the time when Israel was organized under the Aaronic Priesthood, and then we behold the model set up which was afterwards copied in so many particulars by the Apostles. The High Priest was appointed as the Patriarch for the whole nation; under him served the Priests; and under them again, the Levites—these distinct orders, strongly marked by their appropriate duties. It was the duty of the Levites to serve the Sanctuary, and assist the Priests, but they were not allowed to offer sacrifices, nor to enter the holy enclosure of the Tabernacle. It was the duty of the Priests to offer sacrifices, to explain the law to the people, and to minister before the Lord in the holy place before the altar of incense. But it was peculiar to the High Priest to carry on his breast the Urim and Thummim, or sacred oracle of God, and to enter once a year into the Holy of Holies, after offering a sacrifice of atonement for all the people.

This threefold order stood, after being established by Divine command, as a perfect rule of government in all things, during the fifteen centuries which preceded the manifestation of the Redeemer. It was then changed in many particulars, in order to accommodate it to the circumstances of the Church when the Gentiles were to be called as the Lord's people; yet in honor to its Divine original, as might indeed have been expected, it continued, in its more important principles, the same. Thus Jesus becomes the High Priest, the twelve Apostles and the seventy Disciples being appointed to make up the threefold ministry. After his resurrec-

tion, and just before his ascension, he promises the guidance of the Holy Spirit to his Apostles, to be with them unto the end of the world, and then addresses to them these remarkable words, (John, xx. 21,) 'As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.' A few days only after his ascension are suffered to elapse before the visible manifestation of the Spirit on the Apostles in the likeness of tongues of fire. The Church is constituted in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, the Apostles holding the first rank, the seventy elders the second, and the seven deacons being presently ordained to supply the third. In due time, the period of the Apostles' departure draws nigh, when we find St. Paul clothing Timothy and Titus with his own powers of ruling and ordaining, as his successors in Ephesus and Crete, expressly setting forth, in his epistles to Timothy, the characters of those whom he should ordain overseers and deacons, and laying down the wisest maxims of government for both. So, too, St. Peter, in his second epistle, looking forward to his own decease, prepares for similar arrangements, saying, 'Moreover I will endeavor that ye may be able, after my decease, to have these things always in remembrance;' and the mode to which he here alludes of perpetuating this portion of his office we may surely gather from his brother Apostle, St. John, in whose Book of Revelations we find that seven important Churches of Asia Minor had each its Angel, or Apostle, to whom, as its governor and head, the Holy Spirit addressed the admonition to the Churches. From the Scripture we pass on to the works of the primitive fathers, which give an account of the early constitution of Church government from the Apostolic period. And here we find the very lists of the Bishops, who were constituted by the Apostles' hands to preside over the various Churches, with their presbyters and deacons, as we still see it in our own day. We find, too, the most continual allusion to the High Priest, Priests, and Levites of the Old Testament, as well for the purpose of proving the unity of the great principles of the Priesthood under both dispensations, as for the purpose of shewing the relative official rank of the Christian Ministry. And all this occurs in several authors who wrote while the whole Church was under persecution from the heathens. Particularly in the works of Cyprian, the celebrated Bishop of Carthage, who flourished in the year 250, that is, only one hundred and fifty years after the death

of the Apostle John, we have the constitution, character, and powers of our Church presented in the clearest light. And let it be well observed, my brethren, that this distinguished Episcopalian closed his laborious life by a glorious martyrdom, in the year 258, under the reign of the Emperor Valerian, full fifty four years before the conversion of the Emperor Constantine, by whom, in A. D. 312, Christianity was first established throughout the Empire.

Here, then, we find the principles of our Church government clearly settled and well defined, long before Christianity became united with any form of civil government whatever, before the Bishop of Rome had usurped any extravagant power, before the corruptions of doctrine and of practice which afterwards darkened the face of the Christian world had any being, while the Bible, the unadulterated word of God, was acknowledged the only guide, and the customs and regulations established by the Apostles themselves were yet preserved, together with the very originals of their writings, among the Churches of their planting.

At this period, or indeed at any other, from the foundation of the world until the age which followed the Reformation, not quite three hundred years ago, no man can find a trace of the Presbyterian or of the Congregational system. There were dissensions in the Primitive Church, but not about its government. There were schisms and heresies in doctrine, but none in its form of administration. And this universal acquiescence in the Episcopal system we prove to have existed while the Church was under persecution, when the earthly meed of honor was the rack or the lions—the scaffold or the flames.

But in the next century, the Roman Emperor became a convert, and established Christianity as the religion of the Empire. By degrees, the truth of God spread throughout the world, and in connexion with it, unhappily, an increasing portion of error, until at length, it became necessary to cast off the fetters of the Church of Rome, and return to primitive and Scriptural Christianity. In the year 1530, this reformation had advanced to full maturity in many parts of Europe, but not upon the same principles nor according to the same form.

Luther, in Germany, had no Bishops on his side, and therefore, for the very simplest reason in the world, was obliged to proceed

without them. Calvin, in France and Geneva, had no Bishops on his side, and neither had Zuinglius in Switzerland, and of course, the same necessity produced the same result. But did these famous men revile the Episcopal government and cast it aside because it was hostile to liberty? Nay, so far from it that they have left on record their declarations of strong regret that they felt compelled to change an institution which all acknowledged to be of primitive origin.

In England alone, did the Providence of God enable the Reformers to recover Apostolic truth in union with Apostolic Government. Many of the Bishops joined with the King, in favor of the Reformation, and thus, by degrees, the Church was restored to its primitive purity under Edward the Sixth, through the instrumentality of those admirable men, who, like their patterns of old, signalised the ardor of their glorious faith, in the fires of Martyrdom.*

And here, perhaps, we ought to turn aside, in order to notice a most absurd, yet oft repeated slander, which seeks to derive from the conduct of Henry the Eighth, a cause of accusation. In opposition to the usurped claims of the Pope, who called himself the supreme head of the Church, King Henry was induced to take a somewhat similar title, and although none but the Romanists of that day affected to misunderstand it, yet we find it at the present hour, alleged by some Protestants, and willingly credited by others, that even as the emperor Augustus found it politic to be considered the High Priest, or PONTIFEX SUMMUS of his religion, just so did Henry the Eighth assume the chief priestly office of the Church of England, and thus that Church from which we thankfully acknowledge our descent, stands branded with the false and heavy charge of placing an earthly monarch in the throne of Jesus Christ.

Now, without pausing to reflect upon the gross ignorance or the deplorable malignity of this scandalous charge, let me briefly show its utter falsehood. It is obvious to the slightest reflection that the civil governor of every country may be the head of its religion in two senses, namely: a religious sense, or a civil sense. The heathen Emperors were the heads of the heathen religion in both

* The allusion here is to the well known martyrdom of Cranmer, Latimer, Hooper, Ridley, with many others, in the fires of Smithfield, by the bigotry of Queen Mary.

senses, because they were the high priests, actually holding and publicly discharging on certain solemn occasions the priestly office, and because they were the fountain and centre of the legislative and judicial power. This double headship, religious and temporal, was usurped by the Pope for many centuries in Europe, to such an extent, that the Priests set the laws of the land at open defiance, and even sheltered the greatest criminals from justice whenever they pleased. It was established as a principle, that a clergyman could not be tried by laymen for the higher offences, and the Pope had the power of removing all ecclesiastical causes by appeal, to Rome. Nay, he went so far, that even Kings themselves were forced to answer before his tribunal, as Henry the Eighth was cited to do, in the question of his divorce from his Queen. Besides these usurpations which effectually prostrated the whole nation at the feet of the Priesthood, the Pope claimed the most enormous taxes, and in the shape of first fruits, Peter pence, and other exactions which I have not space to explain, he drew from the nation a vastly greater treasure than its own government could command.

Here, then, was the dominion or headship which King Henry assumed against the Pope, by claiming the same right of trying the Priests that he claimed over his other subjects, by commanding the first fruits and other tributes to be paid to him instead of the Pope, by abolishing Peter pence, appeals to Rome, and every other relic of superstitious slavery, in a word, by asserting himself to be the civil head of the Church, just as he was the civil head of the nation. And let it be carefully noted that in the very same temporal sense, though not indeed, to the same degree, might the government under which we live be called the earthly head of every Christian denomination in the country. For the legislatures of the different States make laws to guard the sanctity of the Sabbath, define and punish blasphemy, authorize the formation of religious societies, and conduct their own proceedings under the sanction of the Christian name. The Governors appoint days of humiliation and thanksgiving—the Courts investigate and determine religious controversies whenever they are connected, however remotely, with the rights of property—we hold Church laws and edifices by the same tenure—the clergy are amenable to the same tribunals, we pay the same taxes, and are bound by the same ties of allegiance, as any of our fellow citizens. And the object of Henry the Eighth in the main, was to attain a similar result, by destroying the dominion of

the Pope, and reducing the clergy to a political equality with his other subjects. But did he ever pretend that he was a High Priest, or a priest of any kind whatever, on the principle of the heathen Emperors? Did he assume any part of the Spiritual office of the Bishop of Rome, by meddling with any sacred or ministerial function? Did he at any time, in any way, or on any occasion, enter into the Church as an Ambassador of Christ, assume the robes of the Priesthood, preach, baptize, confirm, administer the Sacrament, or do any thing whatever, which indicated a desire or intention to hold a Spiritual office in the Church of God? Never, my brethren, never. And I must needs call it hard measure to have this shameful Popish calumny reiterated amongst Protestants, not only in the face of all history, but in the very teeth of one of the Articles of the Church of England, which I shall take the liberty of citing in part on the present occasion, in order, so far as in me lies, to save my Christian brethren of other denominations from any future temptation to revile what they do not understand.

The article is numbered the 37th of the collection put forth in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and is in these words.

'The Queen's Majesty hath the chief power in this realm of England and other her dominions, to whom the chief government of all estates of this realm, whether they be ecclesiastical or civil, in all causes doth appertain, and is not, nor ought to be subject to any foreign jurisdiction. When we attribute to the Queen's Majesty the chief government, by which titles we understand the minds of some slanderous folks to be offended, we give not to our princes the ministering either of God's word or of the sacraments, the which thing the injunctions also lately set forth by Elizabeth our Queen do most plainly testify; but that only prerogative which we see to have been given always to all godly princes in Holy Scripture by God himself, that is, that they should rule all estates and degrees committed to their charge by God, whether they be ecclesiastical or temporal, and restrain with the civil sword the stubborn and evil doers. The Bishop of Rome hath no jurisdiction in this realm of England.'

Thus distinctly does the much abused Church of England define and limit the authority of the Sovereign to temporal government only; and although the connexion between Church and State does necessarily carry this government much farther with them

than with us, yet the principle is found to a greater or a less degree in every Protestant country, and admits of a plain justification in every sound mind on the ground of political expediency, without the slightest interference with the spiritual authority of the ministry.

But we pass on from a digression to which we felt ourselves in a great degree compelled, not only by regard to our own ecclesiastical descent, but by the interests of historical truth and the false glosses of cotemporary calumny. Let us, in the last place, consider the character of our Church government, as it was settled on our separation from the Church of England, and exists at this day ; in which I am very confident that the candid examiner will not only find no traces of monarchy, but will perceive throughout, the patriarchal principle of primitive days, united to much Republican equality, and in all its parts made subject to law and order.

The general division of our ministry into the three orders of Bishop, Priest, and deacon, we retain unchanged, with their relative and appropriate powers, as it was established by Apostolic authority. Nor do we conceive ourselves at liberty to depart from this arrangement, either directly or indirectly, by any official mingling with the ministry of other denominations. In this respect, however, it has long seemed to me exceedingly plain that our course of obligation does not require us to judge or to condemn the claims of the various non-episcopal societies. It is no part of our prerogative to limit the conditions of the Divine blessing. It is, indeed, our bounden duty to guard, yea to 'contend earnestly' for the FAITH once delivered to the saints, but this duty does not demand that we should pronounce any sentence of exclusion against those who seem to us to have departed from it. It is also our duty to guard the original and sacred CONSTITUTION OF THE CHURCH, but still less can this call upon us for a sentence of condemnation against those who consider themselves pledged to a different and comparatively modern system. To his own Master let every man stand or fall. The claims of Episcopacy we are solemnly bound to maintain, as firmly believing them to be of apostolic institution ; but we maintain them in the spirit of kindness and good will, leaving the consequences of rejecting them with Him, whose blessing confers the only effectual value on any human ministrations. The admirable Liturgy and articles of the Church of England, distinguished as they are for their antiquity, their scriptural fidelity and pure devotion, we also retain, with such changes only as were rendered necessary by the Revolution.

But in other respects the Constitution of the Church amongst us may be well likened to the Constitution of the Union; and, indeed it is supposed, that it was purposely assimilated to this, in several highly important particulars. First, in the great principle that our chief ecclesiastical officer, namely, the Bishop, is elective. In primitive times this was, indeed, the general rule, but it had some exceptions; for instance, when the people could not agree in a choice, the neighbouring Bishops were accustomed to meet and choose for them. In the Church of Rome the semblance of election has long ceased; and in the Church of England, although the Dean and Chapter elect, it is only on the mandate of the king, and altogether without the votes of the people. But with us this important matter is so ordered, that every clergyman and the laity of every parish have an equal voice. Nay, the laity have a full veto on the clergy, so that their concurrence is absolutely and always necessary. A course more perfectly republican, and more opposed to aristocracy or monarchy, could not have been devised by the ingenuity of man.

Again, the minister of every parish is elective, chosen by the votes of the people, either acting as a whole society, or by their vestry, who are men elected by the society. We have no benefices, as in England—no parishes to which a clergyman can be appointed for life, without consulting the parishioners. Nothing could be more free from restraint than this portion of our system.

Again, we have no tythes, no imposts, no revenue derived from **any** species of taxation; but the whole support of the clergy is **dependent** merely on the approbation and zeal of his parish. **There** is surely nothing of monarchy in this.

Above all, however, our whole system of Canon law, by which **the** Bishop and the clergy are governed, rests upon the same **republican** principle. The Bishop can make no law, the clergy can **make** no law, until the representatives of the laity sanction it. **Each** parish sends its representatives to the State Convention. **Each** State Convention sends its four clergymen and its four laymen to the General Convention, and both in the State Conventions and in the General Convention, the lay order have a **concurrent** vote on every act, and a full negative by their veto. If this be not a republican system, and that to the fullest extent, I know not where to find it.

But this is not all. It is the great boast of a republican gov-

ernment, that the people elect their officers, the people make the laws, and the laws of their own making, interpreted by the officers of their own appointing, govern them. We have seen that the officers in our Church are thus elected, that the laws of our Church are thus enacted, and the result is, that, as in our commonwealth, the laws are supreme, so emphatically is it in our Church, that it is a Church of law and order.

The Bishop sustains an office of a threefold character. First, he is a Patriarch of the Church, bound to watch over it with parental solicitude and affectionate care, and ready at all times to spend and be spent in its service. This ancient attribute of his office is plainly intimated in our ordination services where you find him addressed by the venerable title of Reverend Father in God, and he is thus constantly reminded of the tenderness and love, which should animate all his labors in the cause of that blessed Redeemer, who freely delivered his own life for us all.

Secondly, the Bishop is elected as the judge of the Church, that is, the officer by whose construction of the laws and rules of the Church his diocese is to be governed. Like other judges, he is elected for life, being, however, allowed under certain regulations to resign, and being also subject to impeachment, trial, and deposition, if guilty of any unworthy conduct, or serious inconsistency.

And thirdly, he is elected as the governor of the Church within his diocese, to see that her laws are executed and her rules obeyed, to preside, as on this day, in her legislative assembly, to report her condition, and recommend such measures as he may deem important to her welfare, and generally to do his utmost for the safety and happiness of her clergy and her people.

In recognition of these responsibilities, and to aid him in their fulfilment, the clergy are all at their ordination, bound to promise him a faithful submission; and to give him the benefit of their advice, the presbyters are, of ancient times, held to be his Council, besides which, our system gives him a particular body called the Standing Committee, elected annually by the Convention, for the express purpose of watching over the qualifications of candidates, the regularity of testimonials, and the general affairs of the Diocese.

In subordination to this presiding officer, the clergy minister to the several congregations, and the Vestrymen, annually elected by

the parishioners, together with the two Wardens, compose a board whose duty it is to watch over each individual congregation. To the Wardens particularly belongs the care of the Church edifice, the employment of the sexton, the regulation of the Church-yard, the providing of all the current expenses, &c. The Vestry, with the Wardens, make such arrangements as they may think fit for the raising of the Church revenue, the engagement of the Minister, the appointment of delegates to the State Convention, &c. And in all meetings of the Wardens and Vestry it is the duty of the rector to preside, as it is the duty of the Bishop to preside in the sessions of the Convention.

And now, my brethren, that I have completed this sketch of our ecclesiastical system of government, I ask, on what part of it an honest arguer can lay his hand and say, there is monarchy here? Nay, I go farther, and ask, where is the body of Christians whose ecclesiastical polity shows so much affinity with the Republican government of these United States? And is it too much to say, that such a system deserves our attentive examination, our full support, and our hearty approval, combining, as it does, all that is Apostolical and venerable in the primitive day, with every principle of free and united action which the temper of the age and the genius of our civil institutions can fairly require.

But I trust that no one will misunderstand the object of these remarks, so far as to think me forgetful of the holy and spiritual character of the Christian religion. The assaults made upon the Church, on the ground that it is nothing but form, destitute of the warmth of piety and the light of true religion, and cramping the energies of the soul by the restraints of the Liturgy—these assaults it will be my duty to notice on some future occasion. At present, my design is confined to the Polity or external government of the Church, merely for the purpose of showing its perfect accordance with the polity of our republican system. I grant that ecclesiastical Polity is no more to be confounded with the spiritual religion of the worshipper, than the golden candlesticks in the Book of Revelations are to be confounded with Him who walked among them. Yet we should value them—we should preserve them FOR HIS SAKE. The casket is not to be confounded with the treasure, but no man who possesses treasure in an appropriate casket will think that casket unworthy of his care. No form of civil government can make a nation prosperous, without intelligence, industry,

and virtue ; and yet it is thought worthy of the utmost sacrifice of blood and treasure to secure that form which is conceived best adapted to promote the ends in view. In like manner, it is freely granted that no form of religious government can make a Church prosperous, without evangelical truth and holiness of heart ; and yet it is most plain, that the system of government which we have received from the hands of the inspired Apostles, and which the primitive Church sustained with such zealous unanimity, must be deserving of our utmost regard and veneration. Recognizing, therefore, this plain distinction, let me conclude by recommending to your reflection two practical principles suggested by the nature of our ecclesiastical Constitution, on our faithful adherence to which, our stability and our increase must mainly, under God, depend.

First, then, my brethren, since the force of our ecclesiastical polity, like that of our civil government, depends on the majesty of the law, let the law of the Church never suffer wilful violation. It is the great characteristic of our system, that all things must be done decently and in order. On the preservation of this principle has rested, under Providence, the unbroken firmness of the Church since the reformation, and on the same must rest her future hopes of steadfastness and peace. The beginning of innovation, as well as the beginning of strife, is like the letting in of water ; it is impossible to tell whether the stream will stop before it carries us away. It is our wisdom to take a lesson from the schisms, the heart-burnings, and the unhappy collisions which have rent so many other parts of Christ's kingdom into pieces, and thus learn to prize in humble thankfulness our heritage of order and of peace.

And secondly, since the republican freedom of our system gives our laity so absolute a control in every question of election and of legislation, and leaves the whole support of the clergy within the unchecked range of their voluntary liberality, it is obvious, my brethren, that we cannot expect the Church to flourish, unless there be a persevering and zealous spirit manifested by you who are the leading members of our congregations. Many encouraging instances of this liberality has our youthful diocese beheld ; and I trust the number will be constantly increasing, until there shall not be one Church of our communion embarrassed by difficulty, nor one clergyman who is not reasonably supported by his flock. Above all, may the spirit of that enlightened and unpretending

piety, which it is the great object of the Church to foster and maintain, grow steadily amongst us, and show the enemies of our communion the strongest evidence of their mistake, in the pure consistency of our life and conversation.

Having occupied so large a portion of your time by this topic, I shall briefly state my Episcopal acts since the last Convention, passing by all unnecessary details, and stating only the main result of my visitation.

I visited and preached in all the parishes of the diocese, except Hartland. On the 2nd of June, 1833, I ordained Rev. John T. Sabin to the Holy order of Deacons at Christ Church, Bethel. On the 9th of the same month, I ordained Rev. Charles Fay to the Holy order of Deacons at St. Paul's Church, Burlington. On the 18th of August, I ordained Rev. Luman Foote to the Holy order of Deacons, in the same parish. And on the 3rd day of October, I ordained Rev. Jacob Pierson to the order of Priests, at Christ Church, Guilford.

On the 9th day of the same month, I instituted Rev. B. C. C. Barker, as Rector of St. James' Church, Woodstock.

And this day, as you witnessed, I ordained Mr. George Allen, and Mr. Samuel R. Crane, to the Holy order of Deacons, and Rev. Charles Fay and Rev. Luman Foote to the Holy order of Priests, with the assistance of my Reverend brethren the Presbyters of this Convention.

The Confirmations are as follows, viz :

JUNE 2,	at Christ Church, Bethel,	13
SEPT. 23,	at St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,	1
	and again on 15th March,	4
" 26,	at St. John's Church, Poultney,	9
" 27,	at St. Paul's Church, Wells,	3
" 28,	at Trinity Church, Pawlet,	3
" 29,	at Zion Church, Manchester,	2
OCT. 3,	at Christ Church, Guilford,	3
" 4,	at Emmanuel Church, Bellows Falls,	9
" 7,	at St. Paul's Church, Windsor,	5
" 9,	at St. James' Church, Woodstock,	5
" 10,	at Christ Church, Bethel,	4
" 22,	at St. John's Church, Highgate,	5
" 23,	at Grace Church, Sheldon,	7
" 27,	at Union Church, St. Albans,	4
NOV. 28,	at Trinity Church, Shelburn,	2

DEC. 1, at Trinity Church, Milton,	.7
“ 22, at St. Paul's Church, Burlington,	21
MAR. 23, at the same Parish,	20

Total number confirmed, 127

The changes in the diocese consist mainly in the following particulars. The Churches at Perkinsville and Springfield are vacant. The church at Manchester is supplied by a temporary engagement with a gentleman from Massachusetts, the Rev. Mr. Lane, who has not formed any regular connexion as yet, with this diocese. The church at Shelburn is vacant. The Rev. Mr. McDonald has transferred his services, with my entire approbation, to the parishes at Berkshire, Montgomery, and Enosburgh, which were destitute; the Rev. Mr. Peck, their former minister, having closed his engagements with them. The Church at St. Albans is also vacant, together with that at Fairfield. The Rev. John T. Sabine has officiated in these two parishes since the time of his ordination with great acceptance, but is about to remove to the centre of the diocese, and be employed in the service of some new parishes likely to be organized in that quarter. I am sorry to add, that the parishes at Highgate and Sheldon are anticipating with much regret the removal of the Rev. Mr. Hard, who has accepted a call to Ohio. The parishes at Milton and Vergennes have been under the care of Rev. Mr. Fay since his ordination, and, at the latter place, a Church is in progress, which bids fair to be an ornament to the diocese. The parish at Arlington, having been left vacant by the Rev. Mr. Perkins, called Rev. Mr. Foote soon after his ordination, who has supplied them since that time.

To these facts I am happy to add, that in September last I received a regular communication from the Episcopalians at Norwich, informing me that they had organized themselves into a society, by the name of St. Andrew's Church, and were desirous to be received into union with this convention. And there are many other indications of a similar spirit throughout the diocese, which it is to be hoped the increasing numbers of our ministry will enable us, through the Divine blessing, to improve.

Sensible that I have trespassed an unusual period on your time, my brethren, I conclude by invoking on your councils the favour of God, and will detain you no longer from the business of the convention.

Parochial Reports, as required by the 51st Canon of the last General Convention, were received and read, and ordered to be printed in the Journal.

PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

St. Paul's Church, Burlington.

The Right Rev. John H. Hopkins, Rector.

Communicants added, 42—Baptisms, (adults, 18, infants, 24) 42—Marriages, 4—Burials, 3. The Church edifice has been improved and embellished by the addition of a superior organ, church furniture, &c. and the general aspect of the congregation is highly encouraging.

Christ Church, Guilford.

The Rev. Jacob Pearson, Rector.

Baptisms, 16, (adults 2, children 14)—burials, 9—marriages, 7—confirmed, 3—Communicants added, 4—removed 5—died, 1—present number, 48—Sunday School, about 50—Sunday School Library, 150 volumes.

Trinity Church, Rutland.

The Rev. John A. Hicks, Rector.

The Rector, reports that he has continued to officiate, as during the last year, twice on Sunday in the Church. He has also held a weekly evening service. The number of attendants upon these services has been gradually increasing. And although he regrets that he has it not in his power to report a numerous addition to the list of communicants, he is happy to be able to say, that, of late, a growing seriousness has been observable in his parish, and several have in view an early approach to the Lord's table.—The Bible Class continues to be well attended, interesting, and useful. The Sunday School is more flourishing than at any other period since its organization. The Rector has preached, for the last three months, once a fortnight at Pittsford, where a few individuals are desirous of the establishment of an Episcopal Church. He has preached once at Cas-

leton, and occasionally in the several school districts of Rutland.

Sunday Scholars, average attendance, 55—Sunday School Teachers, 12—attendants upon Bible Class, about 20—Funerals, 1—Marriages, 2—Infant baptism, 1—Communicants, 25.

Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.

The Rev. Carlton Chase, Rector.

Baptisms, 9, (adults 2)—Confirmations, 9—Marriages, 5—Deaths, 3—Communicants, 80—In Sunday School, about 80—Parish Library, 250 volumes.

The Contributions and Donations of the Parish, during the year past, to the Treasurer of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, have amounted to more than two hundred dollars—besides the payment of Miss Hall's Legacy, amounting to seven hundred dollars.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.

The Rev. S. A. Crane, Rector.

Baptisms, 14, (adults 3, children, 11)—Funerals, 8—(adults, 5, children, 3)—Marriages, 2—Confirmed, 5—Communicants, 58—Died, 3—Added, 7.—During the past year the Ladies of the Society have succeeded in raising about 350 dollars for its benefit.

St. Paul's Church, Windsor.

The Rev. William Horton, Rector.

Baptisms, 2—Communicants reported last Convention, 60—Added, 6—removed, 3—present number, 63—Sunday School, 50.

St. James' Church, Arlington.

The Rev. Luman Foote, Rector.

Baptism, 1—Marriages, 2—Deaths, 4—Communicants, 98.

Calvary Church, Berkshire.

The Rev. Louis McDonald, Rector.

From the best information the Rector has been able to obtain, the present number of Communicants is believed to be sixty

three. He has attended one funeral in this parish. A Sunday School of sixty scholars is in a very flourishing state. Neither of the Sacraments has been administered by him. The people appear to be seriously disposed, and the services of the Church are faithfully attended.

Communicants, 63—Sunday School, 60—Funeral, 1.

Christ Church, Enosburgh.

The Rev. Louis McDonald, Rector.

This parish was visited on Whitsunday, and the Communion was administered. The number of Communicants is fifteen.

Union Church, Montgomery.

The Rev. Louis McDonald, Rector.

The present Rector has preached in this parish but once. The congregation appeared serious and attentive. There is a Sunday School in the parish, but the number of scholars is not yet ascertained. The number of Communicants is about seventy.

St. John's Church, Highgate.

The Rev. Anson B. Hard, Rector.

Baptisms, 18, (of whom 8 adults,)—funerals, 2—marriages, 5—suspended from communion, 1—additions, 21—removals, 6—Communicants, 46—Bible class, 12—Sunday scholars, 40—collection for contingent fund, \$3,78. Every fourth week a third service has been held at Swanton Falls, where there is fair promise for the building up of an Episcopal Church.

Grace Church, Sheldon.

The Rev. Anson B. Hard, Rector.

Baptisms, 17 (of whom 4 adults,)—funerals, 2—marriages, 2—suspended from Communion, 2—removals, 15—additions, 18,—leaving as the present number of Communicants, 92—Bible class, 25—collection for contingent fund, \$4,52. Missionary Association for D. & F. M. S. \$10.

St. John's Church, Poultney.

The Rev. Moore Bingham, of the Diocese of New-York, Minister.

Communicants added, 8—removed, 8—Baptisms, 40, (infants, 4,)—funerals, 2—Sunday School, 20. There are Bible, Prayer Book, Tract, Sunday School and Missionary Associations, auxiliary to the general institutions of the Church. There is also a female circle of Industry.

With gratitude to God, this parish may be represented as in a very pleasant and prosperous condition. The congregation has never been larger than during the past year. The debt incurred by the parish, in building a house of worship, has been disposed of in a manner, which sets the zeal and liberality of its vestry and friends in a very favorable point of view.

Its Minister has occasionally officiated in several adjoining towns, where the Church has many valuable friends who sigh for her regular ministrations. In one of them a single individual has subscribed a thousand dollars for the erection of a Church. In another, a single individual has offered to give the site and five hundred dollars for the same purpose. These towns are Castleton and Westhaven. Could they be encouraged by Missionary aid, good parishes might soon be formed in these and other places in the same county.

St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.

The Rev. Charles Fay, Minister.

This society has had the services of a non-resident Minister, to conduct public worship, nearly every other Sunday, since the 7th of July last. Its external circumstances seem to afford a cheering prospect of what may be expected in future. Its members have already commenced the erection of a handsome Gothic edifice, which they hope, by the blessing of God, to complete in the course of the summer. Baptisms, 2—Burial, 1.

Trinity Church, Milton.

The Rev. Charles Fay, Minister.

Baptisms, 14, (adults, 5, children, 9)—Confirmed, 7—Burial, 1.—Number of Communicants, about 20. For the first time since the organization of this Church, it has had the services of a minister on somewhat less than half of the Sundays from the 16th of June last. The condition of the Society is every way encouraging.

Trinity Church, Pawlet.

The Rev. Reuben Hubbard, of the Diocese of New-York, Minister.

Confirmed, 3—Communicants, 27. There has been no special call of attention to the Church in this town, nor has the Rector reason to believe that her interests have been declining.

St. Paul's Church, Wells.

The Rev. Reuben Hubbard, of the Diocese of New-York, Minister.

Baptism, 1, (adult)—Confirmed, 3—Funerals, 3—Communicants added, 3—removed, 2—present number, 23.

Union Church, St. Albans.

Baptisms, 5, (adults, 3, infants, 2)—Confirmed, 4—Communicants, 56—added, 3—Funerals, 3—Marriages, 4—Sunday School, number of scholars, 50—Library, 180 volumes.

Trinity Church, Fairfield.

Communicants, 90—added 2.

The Rev. John T. Sabine, Deacon, has officiated in the two parishes of St. Albans and Fairfield for the past year; but now has removed to another part of the Diocese.

Trinity Church, Shelburn.

The Rev. Louis McDonald, late Rector.

This parish is at present without a Rector. There are many persons connected with this Church, by whom the services of a Clergyman would be duly appreciated.

Baptisms, 13—Confirmed, 2—Marriages, 1.

On motion by the Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That the Secretary be, and hereby is, directed to procure, as soon as may be, a settlement of accounts with the former Secretary, the Rev. Joel Clap, in relation to the contingent fund of this Convention.

The following report of the committee appointed to examine the application of the society in Randolph was read, and accepted; viz. That, having consulted the Canon for such case made and provided, in their opinion, the matter should be referred to the Bishop and standing Committee.

On motion by the Rev. Mr. Chase,

Resolved, That the Secretaries be directed to report whatever of unfinished business may remain on the Journal of the last Convention.

The following report from the Prudential Committee was then read by the Rev. J. A. Hicks, accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Journal of the Convention.

To the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Vermont, now sitting at Burlington.

The Prudential Committee, elected at the last meeting of the Convention, having attended to the business of their appointment, report :

That the situation of the several suits at law, now pending, and to be commenced, for recovering the rights of land, granted to the Society in England, for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, is such, that an exact statement of the amount of funds to be derived from that source cannot be well prepared, until the final determination of the questions in controversy, and the payment of the debts necessarily incurred in asserting and establishing those rights. The agents of the Society, who have the management of its lands within this diocese,

and the disposal of their rents, have enabled the committee to make the following statement of the receipts and disbursements of that board during the past year :

The agents have received for rents, during the period just mentioned, the sum of	-	-	-	\$ 2000,00
And they have paid out, in the same time,	-	-	-	2250,00
And consequently the expenditure has exceeded the income of the past year by	-	-	-	250,00
There is, however, due to the Society, for back rents, the sum of	-	-	-	500,00
And the Society is already indebted to the amount of	-	-	-	2000,00
But the debts still to be incurred in the prosecution of pending and future suits, the agents estimate at	-	-	-	1000,00
This last estimate may vary, and will probably be increased, or diminished, according to circumstances which cannot be anticipated. The agents, however, entertain the opinion, that when all out-standing claims shall have been liquidated and paid, the net income for rents will not fall short of <i>two thousand five hundred dollars.</i>				
The agents have appropriated during the past year the sum of	-	-	-	1690,00
Which has been distributed in the following manner :				
To the Rt. Rev. Bishop Hopkins, in part payment of his salary,	-	-	-	400,00
To seventeen parishes, in part payment of the salaries of their respective Rectors, &c. the sum of	-	-	-	690,00
To Hon. Jona. H. Hublard, on account, for professional services, the sum of	-	-	-	400,00
To Hon. Horace Everett, for like services,	-	-	-	200,00
				<hr/>
				\$ 1690,00

The Committee had proposed to itself a more extended examination of the finances, than is here presented. But, learning from the Treasurer of the Society, Gen. Waller, who is in possession of all the documents, that he was about to draw up a statement of the several accounts, during the ensuing summer

season, your Committee have deemed it advisable to await the appearance of that statement; from which a future Prudential Committee may more readily derive such information as they shall be particularly instructed to select.

All which is respectfully submitted.

May 28, 1834.

JESSE GOVE,

for Committee.

On motion, the Convention adjourned till half past 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, *May 29, 1834.*

The Convention met according to adjournment; and Morning Prayer was read by the Rev. J. T. Sabine.

The Rev. Henry Blackaller, of the Eastern Diocese, and the Rev. S. S. Wood, Rector of St. James' Church, Three Rivers, L. C. were present under the resolution inviting the attendance of persons not canonically members of this Convention.

On motion by the Rev. Mr. Hicks, the Rev. A. B. Hard, and Mr. Caleb Mead, from St. John's Church, Highgate, and Mr. Joseph Blake, from Trinity Church, Fairfield, were excused from further attendance on the Convention.

On motion by the Rev. Mr. Hicks, the Convention proceeded to vote for the standing Committee for the year ensuing.

The Rev. Luman Foote and General Burdick were appointed tellers, and, on receiving and counting the votes, declared the following persons to be duly elected, viz:

The Rev. Carlton Chase.

The Rev. S. A. Crane.

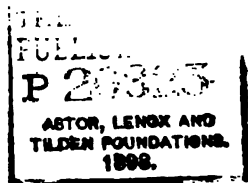
The Rev. J. A. Hicks.

The Rev. Wm. Horton.

The Rev. James Sabine.

The Convention then proceeded to vote for their Prudential

JOURNAL
OF THE
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION,
OF THE
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN THE
DIOCESE OF VERMONT;
HELD IN
IMMANUEL CHURCH, BELLOWS FALLS,
ON THE
TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY OF MAY,
1835.



BURLINGTON:
SMITH AND HARRINGTON.
1835.

DEACONS.

The Rev. JOHN T. SABINE, Minister of Grace Church, Randolph.

The Rev. ZADOCK THOMPSON,

Total 18.

Candidates for Holy Orders in the Diocese of Vermont.

DARWIN B. MASON, M. D.

ALVI TABOR TWING.

A LIST
OF THE
CLERGY AND LAY-DELEGATES,
WHO
ATTENDED THE CONVENTION OF 1835.

CLERGY.

The Rt. Rev. John Henry Hopkins, D. D. Bishop of the Diocese, and Rector of St. Paul's Church, Burlington.

The Rev. George Allen, Rector of Union Church, St. Albans.

The Rev. Carlton Chase, Rector of Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.

The Rev. S. A. Crane, Rector of Trinity Church, Shelburne, and residing in Burlington.

The Rev. Samuel R. Crane, Rector of Christ Church, Fairfax.

The Rev. Luman Foote, Rector of St. James' Church Arlington.

The Rev. John A. Hicks, Rector of Trinity Church, Rutland.

The Rev. Freeman Lane, Rector of Zion Church, Manchester.

The Rev. Jacob Peason, Rector of Christ Church, Guilford.

The Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston, Rector of St. Peter's Church, Bennington.

The Rev. James Sabine, Rector of Christ Church, Bethel.

The Rev. John T. Sabine, Minister of Grace Church, Randolph.

The Rev. Zadock Thompson.

LAY-DELEGATES.

- A. Owen Aldis, from Union Church, St. Albans.
 Chauncey Goodrich, from St. Paul's Church, Burlington.
 Samuel A. Wilkins, from St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.
 Caleb Hobart, from Grace Church, Randolph.
 Oliver Gleason, from Christ Church Bethel.
 Jesse Lull,
 Edward R. Campbell, } from St. Paul's Church, Windsor.
 Rollin Marshall, from St. John's Church, Poultney.
 Mahlon Cooke, from Trinity Church, Pawlet.
 John C. Roberts, from Zion Church, Manchester.
 Alexander Fleming,
 Artemas Robbins,
 Horace Baxter,
 Osmer A. Bingham,
 Joseph M. Webb, } from Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.
 Sylvester Deming,
 Cyrus B. Hills,
 Anson Canfield,
 Samuel Canfield,
 Martin C. Deming, } from St. James Church, Arlington.
 Ashbel Dickinson,
 William Boyden,
 Dana Hyde, M. D. } from Christ Church, Guilford.
 Isaac Doolittle, from St. Peter's Church, Bennington.
- The following Clergymen were not present at the Convention. The Rev. Charles Fay, the Rev. Louis McDonald, the Rev. B. C. C. Parker, the Rev. Richard Peck, and the Rev. Wm. S. Perkins.

From the following Churches there were no Lay-Delegates in the Convention.

- Calvary Church, Berkshire.
 Union Church, Montgomery.
 Christ Church, Enosburgh.
 St. John's Church, Highgate.
 Grace Church, Sheldon.
 Trinity Church, Fairfield.

Trinity Church, Milton.
 Trinity Church, Shelburne.
 St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.
 Trinity Church, Rutland.
 St. Andrew's Church, Norwich,
 St. John's Church, Perkinsville.
 St. Paul's Church, Wells.
 Union Church, Springfield.
 St. James' Church, Windsor,
 St. Luke's Church, Alburgh.
 Christ Church, Fairfax.

The Church in this Diocese consists of the Bishop, 15
 Presbyters, 2 Deacons, and 30 organized Societies.

JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS & c.

Bellows Falls, Wednesday, May 27, 1835.

This being the day appointed by the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the Diocese of Vermont, for its annual Convention, the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese, and the Clergy, and the Lay-Delegates, as stated in the following List, assembled in Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls, at 9 o'clock A. M. in pursuance of a special resolution; and the Convention was duly organized.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Hopkins took the Chair, *ex officio*.
The Rev. S. A. Crane, *Secretary*.


On calling the list the following Clergy answered to their names and took their seats, *ex officio*; and the following Lay-Delegates on presenting the requisite testimonials took their seats accordingly.

CLERGY.

The Rt. Rev. Bp. Hopkins D.D.	The Rev. John A. Hicks,
The Rev. George Allen,	The Rev. Freeman Lane,
The Rev. Calton Chase,	The Rev. Jacob Pearson,
The Rev. S. A. Crane,	The Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston,
The Rev. Samuel R. Crane,	The Rev. James Sabine,
The Rev. Luman Foote,	The Rev. John T. Sabine.

LAY-DELEGATES.

A. Owen Aldis,	Alexander Fleming,
Chauncey Goodrich,	Artemas Robbins,
Oliver Gleason,	Horace Baxter,
Jesse Lull,	Osmer A. Bingham,



Edward R. Campbell,
 Rollin Marshall,
 Mahlon Cook,
 John C. Roberts,
 Ashbel Dickinson,
 William Boyden.

Joseph M. Webb,
 Sylvester Deming,
 Cyrus B. Hills,
 Anson Canfield,
 Samuel Canfield,
 Martin C. Deming.

The Convention thus organized, adjourned to attend Divine service, and to meet again in the same place at half past 2 o'clock P. M.

BELLOWS FALLS, Wednesday, May 27, 1835. }
 Half-past 2 o'clock P. M. }

The Convention having met according to adjournment proceeded to the choice of a Secretary ; and the Rev. S. A. Crane was unanimously re-elected.

The certificates of the regular organization of the following Churches ; viz. Grace Church, in Randolph, St. Peter's Church, in Bennington, St. Luke's Church, in Alburgh, and Christ Church, in Fairfax, having been, according to the Canon for such cases provided, approved by the Bishop and the Standing Committee ; these Churches were respectively received into the Diocese : *Whereupon*, Caleb Hobart of Grace Church, Randolph, and Isaac Doolittle of St. Peter's Church, Bennington, presented the requisite testimonials, and took their seats in the Convention, as Delegates from their respective Churches.

On motion by the Rev. J. A. Hicks,

Resolved, That Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, not belonging to this Diocese, and all candidates for Holy Orders in this Church who may be in town, be and hereby are invited to be present during the sitting of this Convention. *Whereupon*, the Rev. Moore Bingham of the Diocese of New-York, and the Rev. Darius Barker of New-Hampshire took seats as honorary members of the Convention.

In conformity with the 51st Canon of the General Convention, for 'Securing an accurate view of the state of the Church,' the Bishop then delivered the following Address.

ADDRESS.

BELOVED FRIENDS AND BRETHREN,

On this, the third Convention of the Church, since our diocese received a distinct episcopal organization, I have reason to congratulate you on the encouraging prospects, which, on the whole, are open before us, affording the cheering assurance that our labors are not in vain, and calling us to the expression of devout gratitude to that gracious Redeemer, whose blessing has caused them to prosper. I shall present to you, without reserve, the transactions of the past year, and then note such matters as appear, to my mind, most worthy of your attention.

My first official act since the last Convention was on Saturday the 21st day of June, at Trinity Church, Rutland where I confirmed nine persons, and the next day, Sunday, I ordained the Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston to the Holy order of deacons.

Sunday, October 19th, I visited the parish of St. James, Arlington, and confirmed six persons.

Monday, October 20th, I visited the new society organized by the name of St. Peter's Church, Bennington, where I confirmed five persons, and was much gratified to see such good evidence of zeal and success. Returning, I preached again at Arlington, and on Wednesday, October 22nd, I preached at Zion Church, Manchester, and confirmed two persons.

Tuesday, November 18th, I visited the Episcopal society at Randolph, and confirmed six persons.

Wednesday, November 19th, I visited Christ Church, Bethel, preached, and confirmed two persons.

Thursday, November 20th, I visited St. James' Church, Woodstock, preached twice, and confirmed five persons.

being good Friday, I confirmed in the same parish, seven more making forty-six persons confirmed in that Church, since the last Convention.

Thursday, the 21st of the present month, I visited Grace Church, Randolph, preached, and confirmed five persons.

Friday, the 22d inst. I visited Christ Church, Bethesda, preached and confirmed four persons.

Saturday, the 23d inst., I visited St. James' Church, Woodstock, and preached, and on Sunday, the 24th inst. I preached twice, and confirmed forty-nine persons; deriving the highest gratification from the increase of the members and zeal of the interesting congregation.

On the evening of Sunday the 25th inst. I visited St. Paul's Church, Windsor, and preached. And last evening, being Tuesday, the 26th inst. I had the pleasure of confirming eleven persons, in Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls, in the presence of many members of this Convention. To which I have to add the interesting ordinations of this day, when the Rev. Zado Thompson was ordained deacon, and the Rev. Messrs. Allen S. R. Crane, N. O. Preston, and F. Lane, were ordained Priests.

The Rev. William Horton, having resigned his charge at Windsor, has requested and received a dismissory letter to the Eastern Diocese. His place is not yet supplied.

Notwithstanding the losses we have sustained in our ministry the number of our resident clergy is now an increase of four since our first Convention. There are two candidates for orders in the Diocese. Dr. ——— Mason, and A. T. Twing. But the number of our destitute parishes, and the formation of new ones, admonish us seriously, that unless we make some zealous effort encourage and support students in Theology, and domestic missionaries, the Church cannot increase, nor even be sustained much longer, in these days of emigration.

The number of our parishes reported on the Journal of 1833 was twenty-five, since then new parishes have been organized at Randolph, Norwich, Bennington, Alburgh, and Fairfax, a

many other places are ready, if there was a prospect of ministerial aid at hand.

At this moment, Alburgh, Swanton Falls, Highgate, Sheldon, Fairfield, Milton, Vergennes, Middlebury, Windsor, Perkinsville, Springfield, Norwich, and Brattleborough, all want clergymen. Painful and distressing beyond expression, it is, to know of these wants, to be applied to for their supply, and to have nothing in our power to relieve them.

The time, my brethren, seems to have arrived, for decisive action on the subject. Let me recommend therefore, to your immediate attention, the formation of a fund for the aid of students in Theology, and another for the support of domestic missions. Without this kind of effort, nothing can be done for the actual promotion of the great cause which brings us together. With a proper degree of zealous exertion, there is not the slightest room for doubt as to the continual increase and flourishing condition of the diocese.

The subject of our Constitution and Canons. I would recommend you to postpone, until we see whether the wisdom of the approaching General Convention may not provide for them, in part, if not altogether.

And now, my brethren, I commend your deliberations to the blessing of the Great Head of the Church, in whose service our warmest zeal and best exertions will find an exceeding great reward. May his Spirit guide our councils, and support our hearts, and make us faithful though humble instruments in the diffusion of his truth and the establishment of his kingdom.

The following preamble and resolutions were offered by the Rev. George Allen, and were unanimously adopted. Whereas, this Convention regard, with the deepest solicitude, the existing want of laborers in the harvest of the Gospel, and are fully sensible of the duty which rests upon them, to provide the means of instruction and support for those within their own bor-

ders, who may be led under the guidance of God to devote themselves to the ministry :

Therefore, *Resolved*, 1st, That it be, and is hereby enjoined on the Rectors of the several parishes within this Diocese, to present this subject to the attention of their people, in such manner as they shall think expedient ; and to procure such subscriptions and contributions for the same, as may be in their power, and report the amount thereof to the next Convention.

2. That the Bishop of the Diocese be, and hereby is requested, with the counsel and advice of the standing Committee, to prepare a course of Theological studies, and a Constitution and Statues for a Theological Seminary, and report the same to the next Convention.

3. That the Bishop is also requested at the same time to state what aid and facilities can be afforded for the permanent establishment of such an Institution, at Burlington, and under his immediate superintendance and care.

The following preamble and resolutions were offered by the Rev. Carlton Chase ; and were unanimously adopted.

Whereas there are many parts of this Diocese greatly in need of missionary services, and whereas there have been, as yet, no funds provided from which such services can be repaid :

Therefore, *Resolved*, 1st, That the Rectors of the several parishes, are hereby enjoined to present this subject to the attention of their respective congregations, in such manner as they may think most suitable,—to procure from them such subscriptions and contributions for a Domestic Missionary Treasury, as may be in their power, and to report the same to the next Convention.

2. That the sums collected for the above object during the current year shall be paid to the Treasurer of the Convention, who shall keep a regular account thereof in a book appropriated to that purpose, and shall not disburse any portion of such funds without an order signed by the Bishop of the Diocese, or in his absence, by the President of the Standing Committee.

3. That all applications for missionary employment or aid shall be made to the Bishop, or in the vacancy of the Episcopate, to the President of the Standing Committee, and shall be disposed of by them respectively, with the advice and counsel of the said Committee.

On motion of the Rev. J. A. Hicks.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Constitution and Canons have leave to defer their report till the next Convention.

The following Parochial Reports required by the 51st Canon of the last General Convention were received and read.

St. Paul's Church Burlington.

The Rt. Rev. J. H. Hopkins D. D. Rector.

Since the last report of the Rector, he has baptised 45; (Adults 20,—Infants, 25)—46 persons have been confirmed and admitted to the Communion—Present number of Communicants, about 130—Marriages, 2—Funerals, 6. The Congregation is increasing, and the prospects of the Church are such as to demand the grateful acknowledgment of the Divine goodness in all things. The ancient custom of erecting boxes for the offerings of pious charity has been introduced into this parish within a few months back, out of which the wants of the poor being first supplied, the remainder is devoted to the fund for domestic missions in the Diocese. And a subscription has been raised for a sum which it is supposed will not fall short of \$250 annually, for the support of Theological Students and domestic missions, on such terms as shall meet the approbation of the Convention.

St. Paul's Church Vergennes.

The Rev. Charles Fay, Rector.

Since the last Convention the Church has been completed, except the upper part of the tower, and was consecrated by the Bishop, Jan. 18th. It is furnished with an organ, and all other necessary apparatus for public worship, and the society seems to be now in an encouraging degree of prosperity. Baptisms: 21,

(Adults, 12—Children, 9)—Confirmed, 11—Communicants, about 24.

Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.

The Rev. Carlton Chase, Rector.

Baptisms, 19. (Adults 10, Children 9)—Confirmations 20—Marriages, 3—Funerals, 6—Communicants, 90—Sunday scholars, 80.

The weekly meeting on Tuesday evening for expounding and applying the sacred Scriptures is still continued, with manifest profit, under the divine blessing, to all who attend. Besides this the Rector has formed the upper classes of the Sunday School into a private class, to which he gives instruction at his own house every Sunday evening—the Book of Common Prayer is at present the text book. The work of the Lord is prospering amongst us, and the Church is strengthened.

Trinity Church, Shelburn.

The Rev. S. A. Crane, Rector.

Baptisms—Infants, 4—Funerals 2—Communicants about 70. The Rector has had charge of this Church, preaching every other Sunday since September last, just previous to which he removed from Middlebury: and as there is no report from St. Stephen's Church in that place, he deems it his duty to state that his services were continued there for the first three months after the last Convention. He baptised one adult and some children. During the whole period of his connexion with this Church, the number of Communicants, and the average attendance on public worship, were uniformly increasing.

Trinity Church, Rutland.

The Rev. J. A. Hicks. Rector.

The state of this congregation is about the same as at the last report. There has been a small increase in the number of attendants upon the regular services. The rector has continued to preach twice on Sunday in the parish Church, and occa-

sionally at Pittsford and in several school districts of the town. A room has been recently finished in the basement of the Church, as a vestry room, and for the Sunday School, and other religious purposes. A weekly lecture has been held in this room since its completion, which has been well attended. The Sunday School and Bible Classes are about the same as at the last report. At the last two visitations of the Bishop, 15 persons were confirmed, who have since joined the communion. The Rector is happy to be able to say that there has appeared an increasing seriousness, under the preaching of the Gospel—and he thinks the church is in a promising condition.

Confirmations, 15—Baptisms, (Infant 6, Adult 28)—Communicants, 35.

St. John's Church, Poultney.

The Rev. Moore Bingham (of the diocese of New York) Rector.

Communicants, (added 5, removed 8) 46—Baptisms, (Adults 2, Infants 10) 12—Funerals, 3—Sunday Scholars, 20.

This parish is still small; nor can it be represented as increasing. By removals its number of communicants has even been diminished the past year. But though small, yet its members are very happily united, and betray not the least disposition to relax in their warm attachment to the Church, or in their efforts to support the services of the sanctuary.

The view taken of this parish by the Rev. A. Bronson in his 'History of the Church in Vermont,' published in the Gambier Observer, is protested against as incorrect. It is confidently believed, however, that the author had not the least intention to misrepresent.

St. Peter's Church, Bennington.

The Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston, Rector.

Since July last the services of the Rector have been equally divided between Bennington and Hoosic Falls in the Diocese of New York. A Society has been duly organized at

Bennington, under the statute providing for the same. Through the kindness of the Methodist Episcopal Society, we have had the occupancy of their house every Sabbath afternoon.

The prospects for building up the Church, embracing a large congregation are at present flattering. Provision has been made for the constant services of the Church for the ensuing year. Twelve hundred dollars have been subscribed for the building of a church.

Communicants, 10—Additions, 2—Baptisms, (1 Adult, 1 infant)—2—Bible class 15—Sunday Scholars, 50—Marriages, 4.

Christ Church, Guilford.

Jacob Pearson, Rector.

Marriages, 7—Burials, 2—Confirmed, 3—Communicants added, 4—Removed, 4—Present number, 48—In Sunday School, 50—Sunday School Library, 100 volumes.

The Sunday School is flourishing and promises to be very useful.

The ladies of the Society, within the past year, have raised and appropriated for its benefit about one hundred dollars.

Grace Church, Randolph.

The Rev. John T. Sabine, Minister.

Baptisms 17—(Adults, 4, Children, 13)—Confirmed, 11—Communicants, about 25.

Union Church, St. Albans.

The Rev. George Allen, Rector.

Baptisms, 3, (Infant, 1, Adults, 2)—Burials, 4—Marriages 2—Communicants, 60.—Added 4.

Zion Church, Manchester.

The Rev. Freeman Lane, Rector.

Since Oct. 20, 1834, Baptisms 2—Confirmed 2—Communicants added, 3—Removed, 4—Whole number, 51—Marriages, 3—Funerals, 8—Sunday School, 30. The Ladies' Society formed a year ago of about 30 active members, by their

industry, by fees and donations, have raised sixty dollars which they have appropriated for painting the church.

Trinity Church, Pawlet,

Daniel Fitch, Warden.

Communicants, 24—Added, 1—Died, 1.

St. John's Church, Highgate.

The Rev. S. R. Crane, Rector.

Baptisms, 2—Communicants added, 3—Confirmed, 10.

Grace Church, Sheldon.

The Rev. S. R. Crane, late Rector.

Baptisms, 4—Confirmed 16—Communicants added, 8—Deceased, 1.

Christ Church, Fairfax.

The Rev. S. R. Crane, Rector.

This Society was organized on the 8th of May, 1835. Baptisms, 6—Communicants, 13—Deceased, 1.

Christ Church, Bethel.

The Rev. James Sabine, Rector.

Baptisms, 3—(Adult, 1—Infants, 2—Confirmed, 6—Communicants, 80—1 Marriage—3 Funerals. The new parish of Grace Church lately formed in Randolph, having been gathered at first from the Church in Bethel, has somewhat weakened the parent stock ; but as it has, we trust, extended the Church, and called in a goodly number from its own immediate neighborhood, we heartily rejoice in the prospects of that Church, and wish them all prosperity.

St. James' Church, Arlington.

The Rev. Luman Foote, Rector.

Baptisms, 6—Confirmed 6—Communicants, 90—Marriages, 7—Deaths, 7.

*Calvary Church, East Berkshire, Union Church, Montgo-

*These reports were received by the Secretary since the adjournment of the Convention.

mery, Christ Church, Enosburgh. The Rev. Louis Mc Donald Rector.

Calvary Church, East Berkshire.

Baptisms—Infants, 6—Funerals, 2—Communicants, 66—Marriages, 3.

Union Church, Montgomery.

Baptism,—1 Infant—1 Funeral—1 Marriage—Communicants, 39.

Christ Church, Enosburgh.

Baptisms—Infants, 3—Communicants, 16.

These parishes are regarded by the Rector as being in a flourishing state.

The Secretary called the attention of the Convention to the following alteration of the Constitution proposed at the last Convention by Sylvester Deming Esq., and found on the 34th page of the last Journal: viz. "It is proposed, that that part of the *first proviso* of the 4th article of the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State, which provides 'that no person shall represent this State in the General Convention, unless he be a regular Communicant in the Church,' be repealed."

After some debate the further considerations of the proposal was postponed till the next Convention.

On motion the Convention gave in their votes for the Standing Committee, for the year ensuing; and on counting the votes, the following gentlemen were declared duly elected: viz.

The Rev. Carlton Chase,	The Rev. James Sabine,
The Rev. S. A. Crane,	The Rev. George Allen.
The Rev. J. A. Hicks,	

On motion of Oliver Gleason, Esq. the Bishop was requested to appoint a Committee to nominate persons to represent this

Diocese in the next General Convention:—*Whereupon*, the Bishop appointed the Rev. George Allen, and Edward R. Campbell, Esq.

The Committee of nomination gave in the names of the following gentlemen: viz.

The Rev. Carlton Chase,	Messrs. George Cleaveland,
The Rev. S. A. Crane,	Abel Houghton,
The Rev. J. A. Hicks,	Oliver Gleason,
The Rev. James Sabine,	Artemas Robbins;

and upon balloting, these gentlemen were declared to be unanimously elected to represent this Diocese in the next General Convention.

On motion by the Rev. Carlton Chase, It was resolved that the Bishop be, and is hereby empowered to fill, with the consent of any two members of the Standing Committee, any vacancy that may occur in the Delegation of this Diocese, to the next General Convention.

Dana Hyde, M. D., presented the requisite testimonials, and took his seat, as a Delegate from Christ Church, Guilford.

On motion by the Rev. C. Chase, The Prudential Committee of the last year was re-elected for the year ensuing: viz. The Rev. J. A. Hicks, the Hon. C. K. Williams, and Jesse Gove, Esq.

The Rev. S. A. Crane, was elected to preach at the next Convention; and the Rev. Charles Fay, in the event of Mr. C's failure.

On motion by the Rev. Carlton Chase, the following resolution was adopted: viz. That it be and hereby is recommended to the several Churches in this Diocese to furnish themselves, as soon as conveniently may be, with the Psalms in metre, as set forth by a Committee of the last General Convention.

The Convention adjourned to meet again in the same place at half past eight o'clock P. M.

Wednesday, evening, half-past 8 o'clock.

The Convention met according to adjournment, The following resolutions were offered by the Rev. Mr. Chase, and adopted :

1. Resolved that it is the duty of every parish belonging to this Diocese to send a delegate or delegates to its annual Conventions, or to furnish such excuse as the Convention shall approve.

2. That it is the duty of each parish to send some contribution annually to the Contingent Fund of the Diocese, or furnish such excuse as shall be satisfactory to the Convention.

3. That on failure to comply with the above regulations, for two successive years, any parish may be, on motion, stricken from the list, and considered as no longer belonging to the Church in this Diocese. But such parish may be restored again on making such acknowledgment as the Convention shall approve.

The Rev. John A. Hicks offered the following resolutions, which were adopted :

Resolved, 1st. That every clergymen of this Diocese, entitled to a seat in this Convention, shall attend its sessions punctually, unless he shall have been excused by the Bishop of the Diocese, or in the vacancy of the Episcopate, by the President of the Standing Committee : And that a failure to comply with this regulation for two successive years, shall subject the party to presentment, and to ecclesiastical censure.

2. That the members of this Convention, whether Clergy or Laity, shall attend the sittings thereof with punctuality and steadiness, not absenting themselves without the leave of the President first asked and obtained, or the permission of the house on motion.

The Secretary, as Treasurer of the Contingent Fund, presented the following report, which was read and accepted.

Received during the present Convention contributions to the Contingent Fund, as follows :—

St. Paul's Church, Burlington,	\$20,00
Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.	10,00
St. Paul's Church, Vergennes,	8,00
Union Church, St. Albans,	6,00
Trinity Church, Rutland,	5,00
St. James' Church, Arlington,	3,00
Christ Church, Bethel,	3,00
Christ Church, Guilford,	3,25
St. John's Church, Poultney,	2,14
Grace Church, Randolph,	2,62
St. Peter's Church, Bennington,	1,00

64,01

Amount in the Treasury at the close of last Convention, 61,48

\$125,49

for printing and distributing the last

Journal, - - - - \$40,00

postage, - - - - 2,50

to record the proceedings of the Con-

vention, - - - - 5,00 ——— 47,50

Amount in the Treasury, - - - - \$77,99

From the following Churches, no contribution has been re-

Stephen's Ch., Middlebury,	St. John's Ch., Highgate,
Andrew's Ch., Norwich,	Christ Ch., Enosburgh,
Ch., Sheldon,	Union Ch., Montgomery,
Y Ch., Fairfield,	St. Paul's Ch., Wells,
Mul's Ch., Windsor,	Union Ch., Springfield,
Y Ch., Pawlet,	Zion Ch., Manchester,
John's Ch., Perkinsville,	St. James' Ch., Woodstock,
Y Ch., Milton,	St. Luke's Ch., Alburgh,
Y Ch., Berkshire,	Christ Ch., Fairfax.
Y Ch., Shelburn,	

Resolved, That the next annual Convention of this Diocese

shall be holden in St. Paul's Church Windsor, on the last Wednesday in May next, at 9 o'clock A. M.

On motion by the Rev Luman Foote the Secretary was directed to print and distribute 600 copies of the Journal of this Convention, at the expense of the Contingent Fund.

The minutes of the Convention were read and approved, and after the usual devotional exercises, the Convention adjourned, *sine die*.

JOHN HENRY HOPKINS, D. D.,
Ex Officio, President of the Convention.

Attest,
S. A. CRANE,
Secretary.

NOTICE.

The next annual Convention of this Diocese will be holden in St. Paul's Church Windsor, on the last Wednesday in May, 1836, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

S. A. CRANE,
Secretary.

JOURNAL

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONVENTION,

OF THE

Protestant Episcopal Church

IN THE

DIOCESE OF VERMONT,

HELD IN

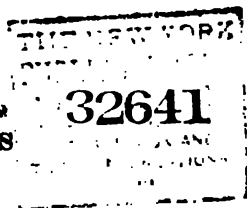
ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, WINDSOR,

ON WEDNESDAY 25, AND THURSDAY 26 OF MAY,

1836.

**BURLINGTON:
SMITH AND HARRINGTON.**

1836.





A LIST OF THE CLERGY
OF THE
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
IN THE DIOCESE OF VERMONT.

THE RT. REV. JOHN HENRY HOPKINS, D. D. BISHOP.

PRESBYTERS.

The Rev. George Allen, Rector of Union Church, St. Albans.

The Rev. Darius Barker, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Windsor.

The Rev. Carlton Chase, Rector of Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.

The Rev. S. A. Crane, officiating in Trinity Church, Shelburn, and Christ Church, Fairfax, and residing in Burlington.

The Rev. Samuel R. Crane, Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.

The Rev. Charles Fay, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Vergennes, and residing in Burlington.

The Rev. Luman Foote, Rector of Union Church, Springfield.

The Rev. John A. Hicks, Rector of Trinity Church, Rutland.

The Rev. Louis Mc Donald, Rector of Calvary Church, Berkshire, Christ Church, Enosburgh, and Union Church, Montgomery.

The Rev. Benjamin C. C. Parker, Rector of St. John's Church Woodstock.

The Rev. Richard Peck, residing in Sheldon.

The Rev. William S. Perkins.

The Rev. Jacob Pierson, Rector of Christ Church, Guilford.

The Rev. James Sabine, Rector of Christ Church, Bethel.

DEACONS.

The Rev. Charles Cleveland,
 The Rev. John T. Sabine,
 The Rev. Zadock Thompson.

Total 18.

Candidates for Holy Orders in the Diocese of Vermont.

Darwin B. Mason M. D.,
 Alvi Tabor Twing,
 John A. Spooner,
 John Brown Pratt,
 George Paine Hopkins,
 George Fordyce Warner.

A List of the Clergy present at the Convention of 1836.

The Rt. Rev. John Henry Hopkins, Bishop of the Diocese, and
 Rector of St. Paul's Church, Burlington.
 The Rev. George Allen, Rector of Union Church, St. Albans.
 The Rev. Darius Barker, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Windsor.
 The Rev. Carlton Chase, Rector of Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.
 The Rev. S. A. Crane, officiating at Shelburn and Fairfax.
 The Rev. Samuel R. Crane, Rector of St. Stephen's Church,
 Middlebury.
 The Rev. Charles Fay, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.
 The Rev. Luman Foote, Rector of Union Church, Springfield.
 The Rev. John A. Hicks, Rector of Trinity Church, Rutland.
 The Rev. Louis McDonald, Rector of Calvary Church, Berkshire,
 Christ Church, Enosburgh, and Union Church, Mont-
 gomery.
 The Rev. Benj. C. C. Parker, Rector of St. James' Church, Wood-
 stock.
 The Rev. Jacob Pierson, Rector of Christ Church, Guilford.
 The Rev. James Sabine, Rector of Christ Church, Bethel.

**the Churches in the Diocese of Vermont, with the
names of their respective Delegates present at the
Convention of 1836.**

Church, Berkshire.	
Church, Enosburgh.	
Church, Montgomery.	
Church, Highgate.	
Church, Alburgh.	
Church, St. Albans.	
Church, Sheldon.	
Church, Fairfield.	
Church, Fairfax.	
Church, Milton.	
Church, Burlington,	Chauncey Goodrich.
Church, Shelburn,	Heman Chittenden.
Church, Vergennes.	
First Church, Middlebury,	{ Hon. Samuel S. Phelps,
	{ George Cleveland,
	{ Nahum Parker.
Church, Rutland,	{ Jesse Gove, Esq.
	{ Phineas Smith, Esq.
	{ Edgar L. Ormsbee.
Church, Poultney.	
Church, Wells,	Orlin Lewis.
Church, Pawlet.	
Church, Manchester.	{ John C. Roberts,
	{ David Dyer,
	{ Ezra Benedict.
Church, Arlington,	Cyrus B. Hills.
Church, Bennington,	A. P. Lyman.
Church, Guilford,	John Burnett.
Church, Bellows Falls,	{ Alexander Fleming,
	{ Artemas Robins,
	{ Joseph M. Webb,
	{ Ethan B. Webb.
Church, Springfield,	Bezaleel Wood.
Church, Perkinsville.	

St. Paul's Church, Windsor,	{ Hon. Jonathan H. Hubbard, Edward R. Campbell, Allen Wardner.
St. James' Church, Woodstock,	{ Amos Warner, John A. Pratt.
Christ Church, Bethel,	{ Oliver Gleason, Esq. Artemas Ainsworth.
St. Paul's Church, Royalton,	Nathaniel Sprague.
Grace Church, Randolph,	{ Philander Pierce. John A. Smith.
St. Andrew's Church, Norwich.	

The Church in this Diocese consists of the Bishop, 14 Presbyters, 3 Deacons, and 31 organized Societies.

JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS, &c.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, Windsor, May 15, 1836.

This being the day appointed for the annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Vermont, the Rt. v. the Bishop of the Diocese, and the Clergy, and the Lay Delegates, named in the foregoing list, met in St. Paul's Church, Windsor; and at 9 o'clock, A. M. the Convention was called to order by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Hopkins, who took the Chair, *ex-officio*, the Rev. S. A. Crane, being *Secretary*.

On calling the list of the Clergy and Churches, a quorum both of the Clergy and Lay Delegates was found present, and the Convention was duly organized; after which it was adjourned to attend divine service, and meet again in the same place at 2 o'clock, P. M.

2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment, and on motion proceeded to the election of a Secretary for the ensuing year; when, counting the votes, the Rev. S. A. Crane was declared to be unanimously re-elected.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Hopkins then delivered his annual address.

ADDRESS.

BELOVED FRIENDS AND BRETHREN :

The preserving Providence of our gracious God has brought us to the fourth Convention of this diocese,* and given us a new occasion for praise and gratitude for all the mercies bestowed upon us, since we last met together. The year past has been full of interest on many accounts. The session of the General Convention, with the novel position in some respects taken by the Church at large, has excited a more than common degree of feeling ; and both in the remote and domestic affairs of our Communion, there is ample room for a far wider range of remark, than the time and the object of our present meeting will allow me to set before you.

Let me, however, proceed, in the first place, to the report of our domestic transactions, which the provisions of the Canon render obligatory, and I shall then briefly notice such matters as may require observation.

After the rising of the last Convention, I proceeded in the order of my diocesan visitation, to Christ Church Guilford, where I preached and confirmed two persons, on Friday the 29th of May.

Sunday after Ascension, May 31, I preached twice at St. Peter's Church, Bennington, and confirmed two persons.

* The Bishop is aware of the apparent discrepancy between the title of the Journal and the opening of his address ; the Convention in the title page being called the forty-sixth, while in the address it is numbered the fourth only. The reason, however, is easily understood. The title page continues the list of Conventions since the first commencement of organised action, whereas the address speaks of the number of Conventions held since the Church in Vermont was fully and strictly constituted a diocese, by having an Episcopate of its own.

June 1, Monday, I visited St. James' Church Arlington, preached, and baptised the child of the minister, the Rev. Luman Foote.

June 2, Tuesday, I visited Zion Church, Manchester, and confirmed one person.

June 3, Wednesday, I visited Trinity Church, Pawlet, preached, and administered the Communion.

June 4, Thursday, I visited St. Paul's Church, Wells, preached, and baptised two adults.

June 5, Friday, I visited St. John's Church Poultney, and confirmed six persons.

June 6, and 7, being Whit-Sunday, I officiated at Trinity Church Rutland, preached three times, administered the Communion, assisted by the Rector, and confirmed four persons.

June 21, being the first Sunday after Trinity, I visited St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury, preached, and confirmed nine persons. In the afternoon of the same day, I proceeded to St. Paul's Church, Vergennes, where I preached, and confirmed seven persons.

December 20, being the fourth Sunday in Advent, I held a confirmation in St. Paul's Church, Burlington, at which time twenty seven persons were confirmed.

January 9, Saturday, I visited Union Church, St. Albans, preached, and confirmed four persons.

January 10, being the first Sunday after Epiphany, I preached at the same Church, morning and afternoon, and instituted the Rev. George Allen as Rector of the Church, the Rev. Charles Fay assisting.

The same day, in the evening, I proceeded to Swanton Falls and preached.

January 11, Monday, I visited St. Luke's Church, Alburch, where I preached and confirmed four persons, the Rev. Mr. Townsend, of the Diocese of Quebec, assisting.

January 12, Tuesday, I visited St. John's Church, Highgate, preached twice, and confirmed two persons. The following day, I preached again, and administered the Communion, the Rev. Mr. Hubbard, of the Diocese of New York, assisting.

January 14, Thursday, I visited Calvary Church, Berkshire, where I preached twice, and confirmed three persons.

January 15, Friday, I visited Union Church, Montgomery, and preached, and after service, proceeded to Christ Church, Enonburgh, where I preached in the school house, and confirmed ten persons.

January 16, Saturday, I visited Grace Church, Sheldon, preached twice, the Rev. Mr. Hubbard assisting, and confirmed two persons. In the evening I proceeded to Trinity Church, Fairfield, and preached.

January 17, being the second Sunday after the Epiphany, I preached again at Fairfield, the Rev. Silas A. Crane assisting.

The same day, I proceeded for a second service, to Christ Church, Fairfax, and preached, the Rev. S. A. Crane, assisting.

And at night, I proceeded to Fairfax Centre, where I preached again.

January 31, being Septuagesima Sunday, I visited St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury, preached three times, and confirmed thirty one persons.

March 27, being the Sunday before Easter, at St. Paul's Church, Burlington, I confirmed nineteen persons, and on the evening of April 1, being Good Friday, at the same Church, I confirmed eleven more. The sum total of Confirmations in the Diocese, since the last Convention, is one hundred and forty-four.

The changes in our ministry are as follows:

The Rev. Silas A. Crane having resigned his charge at Middlebury, has officiated at Trinity Church, Shelburn, and also, a part of his time at Milton and Fairfax. The object of his chief care, however, is a flourishing Seminary for female education, at Burlington.

The Rev. Samuel R. Crane has resigned his charge at Highgate and Fairfax, and has been established for more than half a year, as the Rector of St. Stephen's Church Middlebury. This important Church, I am happy to state, is in an uncommonly prosperous condition.

The Rev. Luman Foote has resigned his charge at Arlington, and divides his time between Springfield and Drewsville, which latter place is not within the diocese. He still continues, however,

presbyter of Vermont. I am sorry to add, that his place at Arlington is not supplied.

The Rev. Darius Barker, formerly of New-Hampshire, has taken charge of St. Paul's Church Windsor.

The Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston has found it advisable to change his canonical residence to the diocese of New-York, and has received a letter dimissory accordingly. But he continues to be the pastor of St. Peter's Church, Bennington, notwithstanding; dividing his time, as was the case previously, between the parish at Bennington, and that at Hoosic Falls.

The Rev. Freeman Lane has resigned his charge at Manchester, and received letters dimissory to the diocese of Pennsylvania. The Church at Manchester, in consequence, is vacant.

The present state of our parishes presents a serious number of vacancies. St. John's Church, Highgate; St. Luke's Church, Alburgh; Grace Church, Sheldon; Trinity Church, Fairfield; Christ Church, Fairfax; Trinity Church, Milton; Zion Church, Manchester; Trinity Church, Pawlet; St. Paul's Church, Wells; St. James' Church, Arlington; are all destitute of ministerial services. Greatly, therefore, do we need to "pray the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest," and to exert ourselves for the indispensable purpose of training up candidates for the ministry, and making the Churches of the diocese capable of giving them proper support.

On the other hand, however, we have many circumstances to call for gratitude. The parish at Enosburgh are preparing to erect a Church, with every prospect of a large congregation.

A similar enterprise is undertaken by our friends at Salisbury, with strong grounds of encouragement.

St. John's Church, Highgate, is about to be improved by the addition of an appropriate chancel, vestry room, and bell; and the liberal individuals who have made these additions, are prepared to engage the whole time of a respectable clergyman. There are few country parishes where a zealous and capable man could be more usefully and happily located.

A new parish has been formed at Royalton, and arrangements are in progress there also, for erecting a house of public worship.

The parish at Randolph are prepared to support a clergyman for his whole time.

The all-important point of candidates for the ministry, also presents a cheering aspect, although the Church must wait some time for the fruits. The two candidates reported at the last Convention are prosecuting their studies, and five others have been added to the list. This will probably be much increased before the next Convention.

I proceed to mention those subjects which were particularly acted upon at our last Convention, and commended to the attention of the present.

A resolution was passed requesting the bishop of the diocese, with the counsel and advice of the Standing Committee, to prepare a course of Theological studies, and a constitution and statutes for a Theological Seminary, and report the same to the Convention.

He was also requested at the same time to state what aid and facilities could be afforded for the permanent establishment of such an institution, at Burlington, and under his immediate superintendence and care.

With regard to the first of these resolutions, I have to ask further time for the performance of the allotted duty. The period is at length approaching, when it will be necessary; but I have suffered it to lie over for the present, having been much occupied with other cares, and knowing that we had not yet arrived at a stage when such a provision could be needed.

With regard to the second, it gives me great pleasure to say that a building is now in progress, expressly for the purpose of a Theological Seminary, where one professor, and from twenty to thirty students can be well accommodated. The advantages which Burlington offers for such an establishment, are manifold. We have three resident clergymen there, all of whom may take a part in the duties of Theological instruction. The use of the building, of my library, and my services, can be afforded gratuitously; and the assistance within the power of the Church in that quarter to render, is certainly not surpassed by any other within our reach. I doubt

not therefore, brethren, that we shall fully concur in opinion on this and every other question connected with a subject so necessary to the interests of religion amongst us. Without laborers in the vineyard of the Gospel, nothing effectual can be done; and with all regard to the superior claims of our General Theological Seminary, and with fervent gratitude to heaven for its present flourishing condition, I have always thought it incumbent on our diocese to provide the means of sufficient support and instruction for such as the Spirit of God may call within our own borders, and who may prefer to remain at home. If after we have made the necessary provision in this matter, our pious young men should choose to go elsewhere, it will be at their own option and we shall have done our duty. But if we compel them to leave their native state in pursuit of Theological education, and thus promote that spirit of emigration, by which both the Church and the Commonwealth of Vermont have already suffered so severely; we certainly cannot evade the painful conviction that we have been accessories to the fault, and therefore deserve the consequences.

The most important duty which will devolve on us during our present session, brethren, is the establishing a system of Canonical rules for the diocese. To the preparation of a Code such as seemed most likely to stand the test of Episcopal principle, and offer a wholesome guide to ministers and people, I have sedulously labored, in conjunction with the Committee appointed for the purpose, much time, and my best faculties. The result will be laid before you by the Committee, for your disposal. How far it will meet your views, it is not for me to say. But in this and every other part of your Conventional business, may you be directed by the wisdom which cometh from above, so that your deliberations may be productive of such measures only as shall receive the blessing of the Redeemer whom we serve, and promote the influence of his everlasting Gospel.

On motion by the Rev. J. A. Hicks, *Resolved*, That clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, not belonging to this Diocese, and all candidates for Holy Orders in this Church, who may be in town, be and hereby are invited to attend the sittings of this Convention.

On motion by the Rev. John A. Hicks, the Convention proceeded to the election of the Standing Committee, when on counting the votes, the Rev. Carlton Chase, the Rev. S. A. Crane, the Rev. John A. Hicks, the Rev. James Sabine, and the Rev. George Allen, were declared duly elected.

On motion by the Rev. Carlton Chase, the Bishop was requested to appoint a Committee to nominate a list of Delegates to the General Convention for the ensuing year.

The Rev. Luman Foote and Jesse Gove, Esq. were appointed to this Committee.

The Committee appointed to nominate Delegates to the General Convention for the ensuing year, made their report: *Whereupon*, the following gentlemen were by ballot duly elected, viz. the Rev. Carlton Chase, the Rev. S. A. Craue, the Rev. John A. Hicks, the Rev. James Sabine; and Messrs. George Cleveland, Abel Houghton, Oliver Gleason, and Artemas Robbins.

A certificate of the regular organization of 'St. Paul's Church, Royalton,' having been approved by the Bishop, and Standing Committee, according to the Canon in such case provided, was laid before the Convention; and the said Church was duly received as one of the Churches of this Diocese: *Whereupon*, Nathaniel Sprague, Esq. presented his testimonials, and took his seat in Convention, as a Delegate from said Church.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by the Rev. George Allen; and were unanimously adopted.

Whereas, a certificate has been presented to this Convention, signifying the appointment of a person as a Delegate, who is not a member of this Diocese, nor a citizen of the United States: therefore,—

Resolved, That said certificate be not received.

On motion the following Parochial Reports were read and given to the Secretary.

St. Paul's Church, Burlington.

The Rt. Rev. John Henry Hopkins, D. D., Rector.

Since the report laid before the last Convention, the Rector has baptised 23 Infants, and 11 Adults—total, 34—Confirmed December 20, 27—March 27, 19—April, 11—Total, 57—Communicants about 170—Marriages, 5—Funerals, 9. During the Sundays of Lent, public Catechetical lectures were given in the Church after the second service, to the children, and youth, with as many of the congregation as chose to remain.

Since the last Convention, the parish have purchased a fine bell, liquidated their Church debt, and are, in all temporal respects, in a flourishing condition. Nor, in the judgment of charity, is there any reason to doubt, that their spiritual growth is encouraging. The true state of this, however, it becomes us to remember, can only be seen by the Searcher of hearts.

Calvary Church, Berkshire.

The Rev. Louis McDonald, Rector.

Baptisms, (2 Adults, 5 Infants) 7—Communicants, 65—Marriages, 1—Funerals 3.

Union Church, Montgomery.

The Rev. Louis McDonald, Rector.

Baptisms, (Infant, 1, Adults, 2) 3—Communicants, 39.

Christ Church, Enosburgh.

The Rev. Louis McDonald, Rector.

Baptisms (Adult, 1, Infant, 1) 2—Confirmed, 10—Communicants, 25—added, 9. The Church is considered by the Rector as flourishing. The people are united and zealously affected in the Gospel. Sunday Schools prosperous in all the parishes.

Union Church, St. Albans.

The Rev. George Allen, Rector.

Baptisms, 12 (3 Adults, 9 Infants) Confirmed, 4—Marriages, 2—Burials, 6—Communicants added, 8—removed, 5—present number, 60.

In addition to the above it may be proper to mention that the sum of \$100 has been privately presented to the Rector, for the purchase of a set of silver plate for the Holy Communion.

Grace Church, Sheldon.

John A. Fitch, and Isaac J. Potter, Wardens.

Baptisms, 4—Confirmations, 2—Removals, 3—Sunday Scholars, 25—Marriages, 2—Funerals, 5.

Christ Church, Fairfax.

The Rev. S. A. Crane, Rector.

This Church has been recently organized. The number of Communicants is not known, but on the part of several of its friends a good degree of zeal has been shown to attend and maintain its services.

Trinity Church, Shelburn.

The Rev. S. A. Crane, Rector.

The attendance upon public worship has increased during the year, but the number of Communicants, though not exactly known, is much less than it was several years since. There have been three Adults baptized, and one Infant, and there are several ready for Confirmation.

St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.

The Rev. Charles Fay, Rector.

Baptisms, 37 (Adults, 17, Children, 20)—Confirmed, 7—Communicants added, 24—Deaths, 7—Marriages, 2.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.

The Rev. Samuel R. Crane, Rector.

This Church had been destitute of ministerial labors since the resignation of the Rev. S. A. Crane, until the present incumbent assumed the charge of it in Nov. 1835. At this period the results incident to a destitution of clerical services were but too apparent; but a deep feeling of evangelical piety existed among the members

the Church—their prayers were answered—the Lord hath blessed them—the borders of their Zion are enlarged. Actuated, in an eminent degree, by a spirit of love, zeal, and harmony, they have the most encouraging prospects before them. A bell has recently been purchased. The Sunday School is in a prosperous condition. Baptisms, (Children, 29, Adults, 25) 54—Confirmations, 32—Marriages, 1—Communicants added since the connexion of the present Rector with this Church, 46—total, about 100.

Since my connexion with St. Stephen's Church, I have held service several times at Salisbury, where an effort is now making to erect a Church, under the most encouraging circumstances. I have also held service in some other of the neighboring towns—in all of which, the prejudices heretofore existing in relation to the Church, are rapidly diminishing.

During my connexion with Christ Church, Fairfax, since the last report, I baptised one infant, and admitted one adult to the communion.

Christ Church, Guilford.

The Rev. Jacob Pearson, Rector.

Baptisms, 9 (Adults, 8, Infant, 1)—Marriages, 3—Sunday scholars, 50—Confirmations, 2—Communicants, 45. The Rector has continued to hold a third service, frequently, on Sunday, and excepting during the cold season, a weekly lecture. *The Female Society for the promotion of Religious Knowledge*, continues, under many discouragements, to do much towards the sustenance of this Church. Within the past year, the members have purchased a number of valuable books, and design to add to them, as God shall bless their industry, till they have a library sufficiently large for the parish circulation. Recently the preaching of the Gospel has been listened to with unwonted seriousness, and eleven young persons are now awaiting Confirmation.

Trinity Church, Rutland.

The Rev. John A. Hicks, Rector.

Marriages, 3—Confirmations, 4—Baptisms, Adult, 1, Children,
3

14—Funerals, 4—addition to the number of Communicants, 3. This congregation has contributed during the last year fifty dollars to the General Foreign and Domestic Missionary Society. They have taken a young man whom they are aiding in an education for the ministry. He is pursuing his studies with the pastor. The Sunday School consists of about thirty scholars. The pupils with their teacher meet the pastor once a month for religious exercises, when they contribute for missionary purposes. Their contributions amounted during the last year to about fifteen dollars. The pastor has established a monthly missionary lecture, which promises beneficial results. The Sunday and week day services and Bible class, also continue to be attended as previous to last report.

St. Paul's Church, Wells.

Communicants, 20—Baptisms, 2—Removals, 3.

Zion Church, Manchester.

The Wardens report that since the Rev. F. Lane closed his services with this Church, they have had no regular preaching. But the Church are well united and hope soon to enjoy again the privileges of the sanctuary. The Female Society of Industry, still continue their efforts with some success. Communicants, 42—added, 5—funerals, 2.

St. Peter's Church, Bennington.

The Rev. N. O. Preston, Rector.

Contrary to the expectations of the Rector, in his last year's report, he has continued his services as formerly, at Bennington, and at Hoosick Falls, in the Diocese of New York. Owing to the distance between the two places, and to the fact of his residing at Hoosick, he has been unable to devote but a small share of his time to his parish in Bennington. Notwithstanding, the prospects of the Church are brightening—the congregation is increasing, and the great truths of the Gospel are evidently producing their desired effect on the hearts and consciences of some of the people. A Church edifice is now erecting, to be completed the first of October.

Communicants, 12—Additions, 2—Baptisms, 2 infants—Sunday Scholars, 25—Marriage, 1.—Funeral, 1.

Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls.

The Rev. Carlton Chase, Rector.

Baptisms, 14—(Adults, 5—Children, 9.)—Marriages, 2—Funerals, 4—Communicants, 80—Sunday Scholars, 70.—Parish Library, 300 volumes—Contribution to the domestic Missionary Treasury of the Diocese in compliance with an injunction of the last Convention, *twenty dollars*.

The Rector is sorry to be obliged to report his number of Communicants diminished, since last year. The diminution is owing entirely to changes of residence, which, while we have added ten new names, have left us that number short of last year's report. Still the prospects of the Church were never so good as now—certain secular improvements having been undertaken in the Village, which seem likely to increase very much its hitherto small population, and of course to multiply subjects for the blessed influences of the Gospel.

The Rector perseveres in the several courses of public and private instruction formerly reported, and is encouraged and strengthened by the devotional spirit, the diligence in Scripture studies and the earnestness of religious inquiry, which prevail extensively in the Parish.

Christ Church, Bethel.

The Rev. James Sabine, Rector.

Since the last Convention another branch of Bethel has been organized into a new Parish, under the designation of St. Paul's Church, Royalton. The prospects of this Parish, are promising—they are supplied every fourth Sunday in the month from Bethel, the rest of their time is supplied by Lay Reading. They have purchased a lot of land for the erection of a Church, when it shall please God to furnish the means for such an object—for the present they propose only a slight building, in which to meet for Divine Worship. Randolph, organized the year before, is progressing, and the people are desirous of settling a minister as soon as a suitable person can be found. These branchings from the old Parish of Bethel, must leave the original stock in rather an enfeebled state.

Nor can we say how our numbers are to be counted at present. Some few are waiting Confirmation, and with perseverance in well doing, and the blessing of God upon our ministry, we hope to see things yet prosperous and happy in the old Parish.

St. James' Church, Woodstock.

The Rev. B. C. C. Parker, Rector.

Baptisms, 4—Burials, 4—Marriages, 5—Number of Communicants added last year, but not reported to this Convention, in consequence of the absence of the Rector, 49—Several persons are in readiness for Confirmation.—Added this year, 2—Missionary contributions, fifty dollars—Sunday School Scholars, 67.

St. Paul's Church, Windsor.

The Rev. Darius Barker, Rector.

Baptisms, 4 Children, 1 Adult—Total 5—No Confirmations—2 burials—Marriage 1—Communicants, about 50.

Since the first of December last, the present incumbent has officiated in this Church. The present prospects are somewhat encouraging, in the increase of the congregation, and attention to the word of life. We have a lecture on Wednesday evening, at which is given an exposition of the epistles, in course. Also, we have a Bible Class on Sunday evening of about 30 members.

There is also a standing appointment to meet the children once in two weeks for catechising and other religious instruction. The number of Scholars in the Sunday School, about 35—Teachers, 7.

Union Church, Springfield.

The Rev. Luman Foote, Rector.

The connexion of the present Rector with this Parish commenced the second Sunday in December last. Previous to this time the Communion had never been administered, but one person baptised, and none confirmed. Since December, the services of the Rector have been equally divided between this Parish and St. Peter's Parish, in New Hampshire. Number of Baptisms, 3 Adults. Several persons are waiting Confirmation. The prospects of the Parish are, on the whole, encouraging.

The following letter from the Secretary of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies of the last General Convention was read, and ordered to be inserted in the Journal :

New York, April 27, 1836.

RIGHT REV. AND DEAR SIR,

'In compliance with the requisitions of the 50th Canon, I take this opportunity to transmit to you the following notice of matters submitted by the late General Convention to the consideration of the Diocesan Conventions.

'*Resolved*, That the following alterations in the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, be, and are hereby proposed, and that they be made known to the several State Conventions.

'Article 5th to be altered so as to read as follows :

'A Protestant Episcopal Church in any of the United States, or any Territory thereof, not now represented, may at any time hereafter, be admitted, on acceding to this Constitution ; and a new diocese to be formed from one or more existing dioceses, may be admitted under the following restrictions :

'No new diocese shall be formed or erected, within the limits of any other diocese, nor shall any diocese be formed by the junction of two or more dioceses or parts of dioceses, unless with the consent of the Bishop and Convention of each of the dioceses concerned, as well as of the General Convention.

'No such new Diocese shall be formed, which shall contain less than 8,000 square miles in one body, and thirty Presbyters, who have been at least one year canonically resident within the bounds of such new Diocese, regularly settled in a parish or congregation, and qualified to vote for a Bishop. Nor shall such new Diocese be formed, if thereby any existing Diocese shall be so reduced as to contain less than 8,000 square miles, or less than thirty Presbyters who have been residing therein, and settled and qualified as above mentioned.

'In case one Diocese shall be divided into two Dioceses, the Diocesan of the Diocese divided, may elect the one to which he

' will be attached, and shall thereupon become the Diocesan thereof;
' and the assistant Bishop, if there be one, may elect the one to
' which he will be attached : and if it be not the one elected by the
' Bishop, he shall be the Diocesan thereof.

' Whenever the division of a Diocese into two Dioceses shall be
' ratified by the General Convention, each of the two Dioceses shall
' be subject to the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese so divided,
' except as local circumstances prevent, until the same may be alter-
' ed in either Diocese by the Convention thereof. And whenever a
' Diocese shall be formed out of two or more existing Dioceses, the
' new Diocese shall be subject to the Constitution and Canons of
' that one of the said existing Dioceses to which the greater number
' of Clergymen shall have belonged prior to the erection of such new
' Diocese, until the same may be altered by the Convention of the
' new Diocese.

' Strike out the word "States" wherever it occurs in the first and
' second articles, except where it follows the word "United" in the
' first part of the first article, and insert in lieu of the word "States"
' the word "Dioceses." Strike out the word "States" whenever it
' occurs in the second, third, and fourth articles, and insert in lieu
' thereof the word "Diocese"—

' Strike out the words "or District" in the fourth article.

' Strike out the word "State" in the sixth article, and insert
' the word "Diocese."

' Strike out the word "States" in the eighth article, and insert
' the word "Dioceses:" and in the eighth article strike out the words
' "or State" after the words "every Diocese."

' Strike out the word "States" in the ninth article, and insert
' the word "Dioceses." Strike out the word "State" in the ninth
' article, and insert the word "Diocesan."

' *Resolved*, That it be made known to the Convention of every
' Diocese, that it is proposed to add to the note on the Table of
' Moveable Feasts, according to the several days that Easter can
' possibly fall upon, the words, "unless the Table gives some day in
' the month of March for it, for in that case the day given by
' the Table is the right day."

'A true copy of the above resolutions as concurred in by both Houses in General Convention, 1835.

'ATTEST,

HENRY ANTHON,

'*Secretary of the House of*

'*Clerical and Lay Deputies.*

'RIGHT REV. BISHOP ~~HAWKINS~~.'

On behalf of the Committee appointed to revise the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese, the Bishop laid before the Convention the following Report.

The Committee &c. after giving to the subject all due attention and examination, report to the Convention the following draught for a Preamble, Constitution, and Canons for the Diocese of Vermont, and recommend that the same be adopted :

WHEREAS it is desirable that those important Constitutional principles which distinguish the Protestant Episcopal Church, should be fully exhibited and thoroughly understood amongst her people, and that her whole system of law and government may be presented, in a brief and simple form, within the reach of all, so as to leave the least possible ground for ignorance or error :

Therefore, the Clergy and Laity of the said Church, in the Diocese of Vermont, duly assembled in Convention, at St. Paul's Church Windsor, on this 25th day of May, A. D. 1836, have set forth the following Constitution and Canons, declaratory of the said principles, and for a guide in the administration thereof, as follows, viz :

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH, IN THE DIOCESE OF VERMONT.

ARTICLE 1.

Of the Bible, the book of Common Prayer, &c.

This Church acknowledges and receives the revealed Word of God, contained in the canonical books of the Old and New Testa-

ment, as the only infallible rule of faith and practice, to which her doctrines, her worship, and her government, are all referred. And next after the Holy Scriptures, this Church adopts the standard established in the Book of Common Prayer, and the Constitution and Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, as set forth by the General Convention.

ARTICLE II.

Of the Church.

The persons constituting the Church, are 1. the Laity, consisting of all who are admitted to the Covenant of Grace, by Christian baptism; (*see Can. 29. of Gen. Con.*) and 2. the Clergy, who besides this, are further set apart to the sacred office of the ministry by the Apostolic rite of Ordination. Without the concurrence of both the Clergy and the Laity, no rule, or law of the Church, can be adopted, changed, or done away.

ARTICLE III.

Of the Ministry.

There are three orders of the Clergy established by Apostolic authority; Bishops, Priests, and Deacons. Of these, all baptise, all officiate in divine service, and all preach the Gospel; but it belongs to the Priest to administer the Eucharist, and to take the spiritual charge of a congregation. In their relative order, the Deacon is subordinate to the Priest, and the Priest to the Bishop. And the Bishop, being successor to the Apostolic order, has the sole right to ordain, to confirm, to consecrate, to pronounce sentence on offenders, to preside over the Church in his diocese or district, and to govern the same according to the Scriptures and the Canons. The Priests or Presbyters, nevertheless, are bound to counsel and advise him; and he does not act in any important matter without consulting with a portion of them, elected for that purpose by the rest, and called the Standing Committee, or Council of advice; neither does he exercise any legislative power, except in concurrence with the Clergy and the Laity, duly assembled in Convention.

ARTICLE IV.

Of the Laity.

The Laity are divided, according to local convenience, into Parishes or Congregations, and commit the general management of their parochial business to a portion of their own number, elected annually out of the parish, and called Wardens and Vestry-men. To these belong the administration of all the secular concerns of their particular society; but they have no part in the spiritual government, which belongs to the office of the ministry alone.

ARTICLE V.

Of the Convention.

The whole Church throughout the diocese meet in Convention, once in every year, on the Wednesday next after Whit-Sunday; the Bishop, presiding by virtue of his office; the parochial Clergy attending in their order, and each parish vestry appointing delegates, who represent the Laity. Special Conventions are also holden when required by the Bishop, or, if the diocese be vacant, by the Standing Committee. And every act of legislation requires the concurrence of the Bishop. The Clergy and the Laity may elect officers, and pass resolutions of advice or recommendation, without a Diocesan; but they cannot, without Episcopal concurrence, enact, alter, or abrogate any law, or Canon.

ARTICLE VI.

Of the organization of Congregations.

Congregations or parishes, in order to be admitted into connexion with the diocese, shall present to the Bishop, one month before the meeting of the Convention, a written instrument, containing their articles of association, and signed by the male members of the parish. This instrument must allege the fact, that they are entitled to the privileges of a distinct religious society, by the laws of the state; and further, that they adopt, receive, and promise entire conformity to the Constitution and Canons of the diocese of Vermont: which document being laid before the Standing Committee, and approved by them and by the Bishop, the society making ap-

plication may elect their Wardens and Vestry-men, and their delegates may be received at the next Convention.

ARTICLE VII.

Of the provision to be made for the General Fund.

The duty of providing for the support and maintenance of the ministry, is plainly declared in the Old and the New Testament, and the obligations set forth and the standard established by the Scriptures in this respect, cannot be lawfully changed by human authority. But in order that the whole Church in the diocese may know and provide for the temporal condition of each part; the following rules are to be observed:

At every Convention the lay delegates shall report to the Bishop the temporal condition of their respective parishes; stating their income, their debts, and the amount of their minister's salary. When these reports are laid before the Convention, the laity shall proceed to fix the quota which each parish shall pay to the general fund of the diocese at the next Convention, and the delegates of each parish shall hand to the treasurer their written promise, in the name of the parish, to pay the same at the appointed time. And said quota shall be rated at from three to ten per cent. on the amount at which the parish have engaged their minister, according to the circumstances of each parish respectively. A failure to pay this quota may be accounted for satisfactorily; and in such case, the Convention, by vote, may accept the excuse; but if it be not paid, and no sufficient excuse be offered, the parish in default shall be admonished; and if it continue in default for two successive Conventions, it may be, on motion, stricken from the list of the diocese, until due satisfaction be made. The general fund, thus supplied, shall be expended according to the votes of the Convention.

ARTICLE VIII.

Of the administration of Ecclesiastical Justice.

All cases of presentment of clergy or laymen, either for error in religion, whether it respects faith or morals, for breach of the Con-

stitution and Canons of the Church, or for any offence which involves a violation of the baptismal or ordination vow, are tried before the Bishop, as Ecclesiastical Judge, assisted by his Council of advice, or by other Presbyters appointed for the purpose, according to the rules of Ecclesiastical law, and the Canons of this diocese, in such case made and provided.

ARTICLE IX.

Of the duty of understanding the Laws of the Church.

It is the duty of ministers, wardens, and vestrymen, to make themselves familiar with the Constitution and Canons of the diocese; and to this end, every parish shall have eight copies of the same substantially bound, one for the minister, and one for each warden and vestryman, to be consulted by them, and delivered to their successors in office.

ARTICLE X.

Of the mode of altering the Constitution.

The mode of altering or adding to the Constitution, shall be as follows, viz: A proposition for amendment shall be laid before the Convention in writing, and if approved, shall lie over till the next annual Convention; and if then approved by the Bishop, and by two thirds of the Clergy, and two thirds of the Laity present, voting by orders, the proposed amendment shall become a part of the Constitution.

CANONS.

CANON I.

Of the Standing Committee, or Council of Advice.

§ 1. At every Annual Convention, five Presbyters shall be elected as the Standing Committee, or Bishop's Council of Advice, for the ensuing year. They shall elect from their own body, a President and Secretary. They may meet on their own adjournment,

from time to time, and the President shall have power to summon special meetings whenever he shall deem it necessary.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a regular record of all their proceedings, in a book which shall belong to the registry of the diocese; and which, together with all papers in possession of the Committee, shall be open to the inspection of the Bishop, or the Convention, when required.

§ 3. The Council shall be summoned on the requisition of the Bishop, whenever he shall wish for their advice, and they may meet of their own accord, and agreeably to their own rules, when they may be disposed to advise the Bishop.

§ 4. When the diocese is vacant, through the death or resignation of the Bishop, it shall be the duty of the President of the Council, to call a meeting forthwith, and after consultation as to the time and place, to summon a special Convention of the diocese to elect a successor with all convenient speed. (*See Canon 4 of Gen. Con.*)

CANON II.

Of Candidates for Orders.

§ 1. Every person desirous of becoming a candidate for the office of the ministry, and being not less than eighteen years of age, shall give notice of his intention to the Bishop, or if there be no Bishop, to the President of the Standing Committee; and in order to his admission as a candidate he shall present to the Bishop a certificate from the said Standing Committee, testifying that from personal knowledge, or from testimonials laid before them, they believe that he is pious, sober, and honest; that he is attached to the doctrines, discipline, and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and is a communicant of the same; and in their opinion, possesses such qualifications as will render him apt and meet to exercise the ministry, to the glory of God and the edifying of the Church. And when the Standing Committee do not certify the above from personal knowledge, the testimonials laid before them shall be of the same tenor as the certificate above required, and shall be signed by the minister, wardens, and vestry of the congre-

ation to which the applicant belongs, at a regular vestry meeting. If this cannot be done, on account of peculiar circumstances, not affecting the character of the applicant, the said testimonials may be signed by one Presbyter and four respectable laymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

§ 2. In addition to the above testimonials, the applicant must lay before the Standing Committee a satisfactory diploma, or a certificate from the instructor or instructors of some approved and duly incorporated literary institution; which certificate must state what have been his studies, and the extent of his improvement in them; or a certificate from two Presbyters appointed by the Bishop to examine him, stating that the applicant possesses such academical learning as may enable him to enter advantageously on a course of theology.

§ 3. The applicant must further understand that the Church expects of him—what can never be brought to the test of any outward standard—an inward fear and worship of Almighty God; a love of religion and a sensibility to its holy influences; a habit of devout affection; and a cultivation of all those graces, which are called, in Scripture, the fruits of the Spirit, and by which alone his sacred influences can be manifested.

§ 4. These requisitions being fulfilled, the applicant may be admitted as a candidate for Orders by the Bishop, or if there be no Bishop, by the Standing Committee, and he shall continue a candidate for the term of three years before his ordination, unless the Bishop, with the consent of the Standing Committee, shall deem it expedient to ordain him after the expiration of a shorter period, not less than one year.

No person residing within this diocese, and desirous of being admitted a candidate for Holy Orders, can apply to the Bishop or Standing Committee of any other diocese, without the consent of the ecclesiastical authority of this diocese first obtained. (*See Can. of Gen. Con.*)

§ 6. No candidate for Orders or other person of the laity is allowed to perform the service of the Church, without a written license from the Bishop, or, if there be no Bishop, from the Standing Committee. And such licensed reader shall submit to all the

regulations prescribed in his letter of license. He is not at liberty to use the absolution or benediction, nor to assume the garments appropriate to the clergy, nor to officiate in the pulpit, nor to read any other sermons than those which are pointed out to him; nor, except in cases of extraordinary emergency, is he allowed to perform any part of the service, when a clergyman is present. (*See Can. 11, of Gen. Con.*)

CANON III.

Of the age of those who are ordained or consecrated to the Orders of the ministry.

§ 1. Deacons' Orders cannot be conferred on any person until he has attained the full age of twenty-one years; nor Priests' Orders until he has attained the age of twenty-four. And no Deacon can be ordained Priest, until the expiration of one year, unless for reasonable causes, it shall seem good unto the Bishop.

§ 2. No man can be consecrated a Bishop until he has attained the full age of thirty years. (*See Can. 8, of Gen. Con.*)

CANON IV.

Of the Qualifications of those who apply for Deacons' Orders.

§ 1. Every candidate for Deacons' Orders, shall undergo four different examinations in the presence of the Bishop and two or more Presbyters; the first of which shall be on some approved treatises on Natural Philosophy, Moral philosophy, and Rhetoric, and in the Hebrew Bible, the Greek Testament, and the Latin Tongue. The second examination shall be on the books of Scripture, in which he shall give an account of the different books and explain such passages as may be proposed to him. The third examination shall be on the evidences of Christianity, and Systematic Divinity. And the last examination shall be on Church History, Ecclesiastical Polity, the book of Common Prayer, and the Constitution and Canons of the General Convention and of this diocese. And at each of the said examinations, he shall read a sermon or discourse, composed by himself, on some passage of Scripture previously assigned him; all of which shall be submitted to the criticism of the

shop and Clergy. And one, at least, of the first four discourses, shall be composed by the candidate, in a room appointed for that purpose, without any books to assist him, except a Bible, and Concordance, and within the space of two successive days. (*See Can. 1, of Gen. Con.*)

CANON V.

Of the caution to be used by those who sign the certificates of candidates for Orders.

Forasmuch as nothing more deeply wounds the peace of the Church and the honor of the Gospel, than the admission of unworthy men to the office of the ministry, care shall be taken, that certificates given to candidates be in all cases founded on real evidence of the facts therein alleged. And if, in any case, it be found that they have been signed rashly and unadvisedly, without due care and caution, the signers, whether clergymen or laymen, shall be liable to ecclesiastical censure. (*See Can. 14, of Gen. Con.*)

CANON VI.

Of Deacons.

Every Deacon is subject to the direction of the Bishop, as to the place or places in which he shall officiate. (*See Can. 17, of Gen. Con.*)

CANON VII.

Of Priests.

No person is admitted to Priests' Orders until he is examined in presence of the Bishop and two or more Presbyters, on some of the topics prescribed in the course of Theological studies. And he shall also produce to the Bishop a satisfactory certificate from some parish vestry or vestries of the diocese, that they will receive him as their minister and allow him an adequate maintenance; or he must be engaged as a professor, tutor, or instructor of youth, in some duly incorporated College, or Seminary of learning, or be employed in the service of some missionary society, recognised by the General Convention. (*See Can. 19, of Gen. Con.*)

CANON VIII.

Of the times when Candidates are examined and ordained.

§ 1. The stated time for candidates to be examined for Holy Orders, shall be the week before Whit-Sunday; and the examinations shall commence on the Monday of said week, and be continued until Saturday inclusive, allowing four full days for the subject on which the candidates are required to answer, and two days for the composition of the discourse, specified in the first section of Canon IV.

§ 2. The stated times of ordination are the Sundays following the Ember weeks, (*See Can. 20, of Gen. Con.*) or the Wednesday next after Whit-Sunday, being the day appointed for the opening of the Convention. But occasional ordinations may be held at such other times as the Bishop, with the advice of his Council shall appoint.

CANON IX.

Of Episcopal Visitations.

§ 1. Once in three years, at least, and every year when practicable, the Bishop visits the several parishes of his diocese, for the purpose of examining the state of each congregation, inspecting the conduct of the clergy, and administering the Apostolic rite of confirmation. The expenses attendant upon this visitation shall be defrayed by the parishes visited, or if not, they shall be paid out of the general fund of the Convention. (*See Can. 25, of Gen. Con.*)

§ 2. When notice is received from the Bishop of his intention to visit any parish, the minister shall communicate the same both publicly and privately, to his congregation, as opportunity may offer. And he shall diligently seek for, and prepare for Confirmation, such persons as he shall think properly qualified; and shall present them to the Bishop, and give him a list of their names.

§ 3. On the day of the Bishop's arrival, the Minister, Wardens, and Vestry, shall have a meeting with him, at the house where he lodges, for the purpose of communicating to him all the facts touching the state of the congregation, cases demanding discipline, the names and circumstances of offenders, th

fulness with which the laws and regulations of the Church are served, and all other things required to furnish him with full information. For the diocese is as one family, over which the Bishop, under Christ, is bound to preside, and he cannot perform duty aright, if the knowledge of the condition of every member is not fully imparted to him. (*See Can. 26, of Gen. Con.*)

CANON X.

Of Parish Ministers.

1. On the election of a minister by the Vestry and Wardens of any parish, they shall transmit to the Bishop notice of the same to the effect: 'We, the Church Wardens, of

the parish of _____, do certify, that on the _____ day of _____, A. B. was duly chosen Rector,' (or minister, or assistant minister, as the case may be) 'of the said Church, on the following conditions,' (here the agreement is to be stated,) 'Witness our hands.'

And together with the foregoing certificate, the elected minister shall state whether the terms of the said election are satisfactory to him, and if the Bishop approves of the same, signifies his consent, the engagement is ratified and confirmed accordingly; and the person elected, if a Priest, shall be instituted at the ensuing visitation: Provided, always, nevertheless, that the parish possess a house of worship, which has been regularly consecrated according to the order of the Liturgy. (*See Can. 30, of Gen. Con.*)

2. Every parochial minister shall be faithful in the observance of the rules and customs of the Church, as the same are set forth by the Bishop, in order that no unseemly diversities may disturb peace and unity of the diocese.

3. Every parochial minister shall keep a registry of baptisms, confirmations, communicants, marriages, and funerals, within his parish, in a book provided by the parish, and belonging to the same.

4. He shall also be diligent to teach the children of his congregation in the catechism, and shall devote, at the least, a sufficient portion of the afternoon services of the Sundays in Lent, exclusively before the congregation, to the instructing the children

and youth in the Catechism, the Worship, and the Constitution of the Church. (*See Can. 28, and 29, of Gen. Con.*)

CANON XI.

Of the Dissolution of the Parochial engagement.

§ 1. As no minister can be regularly settled in any parish, without the concurrence of the Bishop, so neither can he be dismissed without the same; and in case of his dismission without such concurrence, the parish concerned shall have no right to a representation in the Convention, until they have made such satisfaction as justice may require. Nor shall any minister leave his congregation against their will without the same concurrence; and if he shall so leave them, he shall not be allowed to take his seat in Convention, nor be eligible into any other parish, until he has made such satisfaction as justice may require. (*See Can. 33, of Gen. Con.*)

CANON XII.

Of the due celebration of Sunday.

All persons within this Church shall celebrate and keep the Lord's day, commonly called Sunday, in hearing the word of God read and taught, in private and public prayer, in other exercises of devotion, and in acts of charity, using all godly and sober conversation. (*See Can. 41, of Gen. Con.*)

CANON XIII.

Of the Election and duty of Wardens and Vestry-men.

§ 1. On Easter Monday of every year, every baptized male, being of the full age of twenty-one years, shall attend at the place of worship after the hour of divine service, for the purpose of electing by ballot, seven persons, of pious and sober life and conversation, for Vestry-men, to serve until the following Easter Monday, and until their places shall be supplied by another election.

§ 2. Notice of this election shall be given by the minister after morning prayer, on the day before, being Easter Sunday, or during his absence, by the senior Warden, or by such person as shall have officiated in the reading of the Church service. And the minister,

if a Rector, or in his absence, the senior Warden shall preside at the election.

§ 3. The Vestry when elected, together with the Wardens, the Secretary and the Treasurer of the former Vestry, shall meet at the time and place appointed; the time being always some part of the same day or evening. And the Rector shall always preside at this and every meeting of the Vestry, and open the proceedings with a Collect or Collects, and the Lord's Prayer, and close them with the Apostolic benediction. But if the Rector be absent, or the parish be vacant, then the senior Warden shall preside and perform the same duty. And the first act of the new Vestry, shall be to appoint the two Wardens from their own number; one of which, the senior Warden, shall be nominated by the Rector, and the junior Warden shall be elected by the Vestrymen. They shall also elect one of their number to be the Secretary, and another to be the Treasurer for the ensuing year. And as soon as these various appointments are made, the Secretary of the former Vestry shall deliver to the new Secretary, the records of the parish, and the Treasurer shall pay over the balance in his hands, and transfer the accounts in proper order, and their offices shall thereupon cease and determine. The Wardens and Vestry shall then proceed to the election of one or more delegates to represent the parish in the ensuing Convention of the diocese, who shall always be elected from among themselves.

§ 4. It is the duty of the Wardens and Vestry, to consider and determine upon the election of a minister if the parish be vacant; to see that he be well provided for and punctually paid; to make and execute all contracts for the erection, the furnishing, the repair, and the due preservation of the Church edifice, the parsonage, and other parish property; to regulate the use of the grave yard; to employ an organist, or chorister; to hire a sexton, and generally to transact, as the constituted representatives and authorized agents of the congregation, all the temporal business connected with the objects for which the parish was organized, in such way and manner as the society may by vote authorize and direct. And for the determining on all and every point herein involved, they shall hold

such meetings as the Rector, or in his absence, the senior Warden, may deem necessary; the Secretary giving due notice of the same, or the Rector giving the same notice from the desk, on the previous Sunday.

§ 5. It is the special duty of the Wardens, to provide out of the parish funds, the elements for each celebration of the Lord's Supper; to collect the alms offered at the same; to keep watch over the due preparation of the Church for every occasion of public worship; to see that it is kept duly warmed, ventilated, cleaned and in good repair; to provide a sufficient supply of garments and books to be used in public worship by the minister; to regulate and superintend the mode in which the sexton, door-keeper, or other inferior officers of the Church, perform their duty; to attend to the accommodation of the congregation with seats, and to repress all disorder in time of public worship. In the fulfilment of these duties, the members of the Vestry are all bound to render such assistance as the Wardens may require; and the whole together shews the importance and value of these offices to the welfare of the parish, and the esteem and respect due to those who faithfully fulfil the same.

CANON XIV.

Of the Convention.

§ 1. The annual meeting of the Convention shall be holden in the Church of the Bishop, unless for some special cause, the previous Convention have directed that it be held elsewhere.

§ 2. The members of the Convention shall consist of the Clergy and the Laity of the diocese, having the following qualifications:

Every Clergyman having been admitted canonically by the ecclesiastical authority, as a resident of the diocese for one year previous to the meeting of Convention, and having become regularly connected with some parish in the same, or being a professor in some College, or incorporated Seminary of learning, or being engaged as a missionary, or a Theological professor under the authority of the diocese, shall be a member of the Convention.

And every parish regularly organized according to the Constitution shall send a delegate, or delegates according to the following

ratio of representation, viz: If they count three male communicants, they shall be entitled to one delegate; if there be ten male communicants, they shall be entitled to two delegates; if there be twenty male communicants, they shall be entitled to three delegates; if there be forty male communicants, they shall be entitled to four delegates; If there be eighty male communicants, they shall be entitled to five delegates; if there be one hundred and fifty male communicants, they shall be entitled to six delegates; and if there be three hundred male communicants, they shall be entitled to seven delegates, in which case, the wardens and vestry are all to attend. Provided, always, that no person under Ecclesiastical censure or process, whether Clergyman or Layman, shall be allowed a seat in the Convention.

§ 3. The Convention in its ordinary mode of transacting business, shall deliberate and vote without any distinction of orders; but any member may call for a division upon any question, and if this call be sustained by two other members, then the question in debate shall be put first to the Clergy and next to the Laity; and in such case a majority of both orders shall be necessary to constitute a vote of the Convention.

§ 4. The Bishop presides, as Bishop, in the Convention, being expected to express his opinion, from his seat, on every subject, as freely as the Judge upon the bench, or the father in his family. When there is no Bishop, the President of the Standing Committee presides as Chairman or Moderator. And if he cannot attend, the Convention elect a Chairman from the Clergy present. A Secretary and Treasurer, a Standing Committee, and Delegates to the General Convention shall be elected at each Convention.

§ 5. Of the officers above named, the Chairman, the Secretary, and the Treasurer, shall be always elected by a joint vote of the whole house. The Standing Committee being composed of Clergymen, shall be elected by the votes of the Clergy alone, as also the clerical members of the delegation to the General Convention. The Laymen appointed to be members of the delegation shall be elected by the Laity alone; and all elections shall be by ballot.

§ 6. When a Bishop is to be elected, the Convention shall al-

ways vote in distinct orders. The Clergy shall make a nomination by ballot, and two thirds of the Lay Delegates shall concur by ballot, in order to constitute an election.

§ 7. When the Bishop, or if there be no Bishop, the Standing Committee, shall deem it expedient to call a Special Convention, seven weeks notice shall be given to every Minister and to one of the Wardens of each parish in the diocese. And the notice shall express the special object or objects, for which said Convention is summoned, and no other subject shall be proposed or determined upon in the said Convention.

CANON XV.

Of the publication of the Proceedings of Convention.

The sessions of the Convention are not open to the public; and none but the members of the same, and persons specially invited, are authorized to attend. But the proceedings of each Convention shall be published by the Secretary, under the supervision of the Bishop, as soon as practicable after the close of each session, and the Secretary shall send a copy by mail to each Clergyman within the diocese, and to each Warden and Vestryman of every parish, and also to each Bishop of the Church, and to every Secretary of Convention, and to every member of a Standing Committee throughout the United States.

CANON XVI.

Of the Secretary and Treasurer.

§ 1. The Secretary of the Convention shall keep full and exact records of all its acts, in a fit book, together with all papers, documents, memorials, &c. belonging to the same, duly endorsed, and filed in such way that they can be easily consulted, whenever at any time, recourse to them may be necessary. He shall also prepare, under the direction of the Bishop, at least one week before the meeting of Convention, a list of all ministers canonically resident in the diocese, annexing their respective stations, or, if they are not engaged, their places of residence only, and stating whether they are Priests or Deacons; but not inserting the name of any

clergyman who may be suspended from the ministry. The list thus prepared shall be laid before the Convention immediately after it shall be called to order, and the names of the clerical members shall be called therefrom.

§ 2. The Treasurer shall have the charge of the general fund of the diocese, and shall keep a strict account of the same in a fit book, with a distinct place therein for each parish, and shall endorse and file away in like manner, all warrants, orders, or papers belonging to his department, and shall have his accounts duly audited by the Standing Committee, the week before the meeting of the Convention in every year.

§ 3. When a vacancy occurs in the office either of Secretary or Treasurer, the Bishop shall appoint a Secretary or Treasurer for the time, who shall receive the records and the funds from the hands of the former officers or their legal representatives, and shall continue in office until the ensuing Convention shall have elected some other person to fill the same.

CANON XVII.

Of the rules of Order of the Convention.

§ 1. The Morning Prayer of the Church shall be performed every day during the session of the Convention, at which all persons may attend.

§ 2. When the President takes the chair, all who are not members or invited visitors, shall be requested to withdraw, and no member shall continue standing, or shall afterwards stand up, except to address the chair.

§ 3. No member shall absent himself from the house, unless he have leave, or be unable to attend.

§ 4. When any member is about to speak, or deliver any matter to the house, he shall, with due respect, address himself to the President, confining himself strictly to the point in debate.

§ 5. No member shall speak more than twice in the same debate, without leave of the house.

§ 6. While the President is putting any question, the members

shall continue in their seats, and shall not hold any private discourse.

§ 7. No question shall be considered as before the house, unless it be seconded and reduced to writing.

§ 8. When a motion is under consideration, no other motion shall be made except to amend, to divide, to commit, or postpone it; but a motion to adjourn shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate. A question of amendment shall be decided before the original motion.

§ 9. All committees shall be appointed by the President unless otherwise ordered.

§ 10. When the house is about to rise, every member shall keep his seat until the President leaves the chair.

CANON XVIII.

Of a regular attendance at Convention.

It is the duty of every one who is a member of the Convention, to attend its sessions punctually, unless hindered by some Providential obstacle; and Clergymen disregarding this duty, may be presented for Ecclesiastical censure; and parishes neglecting to send delegates for two successive Conventions, may be, on motion, stricken from the list until they make a suitable acknowledgment.

CANON XIX.

Of the number necessary to constitute a Quorum.

A quorum of the Convention, for ordinary purposes, shall consist of any number of members, being not less than seven of the Clergy, and the like number of the Laity, provided the Bishop be present. But in his absence, such number shall not have power to do more than receive the usual reports, and elect the ordinary officers. In the election of a Bishop, two thirds of the Clergy shall be present, and a majority of all the parishes entitled to delegates shall be represented, before the Convention can proceed. In all other cases, a majority of the body having authority to act constitute a quorum.

CANON XX.

Of the continuance of Officers in their Office.

In all cases whatever, of failure or omission to elect officers, whether Conventional or Parochial, the persons last elected shall continue to serve till others be chosen.

CANON XXI.

Of the Administration of Ecclesiastical Justice.

§ 1. There shall be no trial in any case without a regular presentment made by the Standing Committee.

§ 2. In all cases of presentment, whether of clergymen or laymen, a copy of the charge or charges, with all the proper specifications, together with a citation to appear and answer, shall be served upon the party accused with all convenient speed, in the manner hereinafter provided.

§ 3. The regular place of trial, and the office for the records of all Ecclesiastical proceedings, shall be the house of the Bishop. But if there be no Bishop, the Standing Committee shall appoint the place for these purposes; and the Bishop, by and with the concurrence of his Council of Advice, may appoint any place within his diocese for the trial, if there be any special reason moving him thereto.

§ 4. The testimony adduced upon the trial shall be in writing, on oath or affirmation, taken on due notice to the parties, either by a commissary appointed for that purpose by the ecclesiastical authority, or in the manner of commissions or depositions in civil cases. But this provision shall not prevent the appearance of the witnesses, and the hearing of their testimony on the trial, whenever it shall be preferred by either party.

§ 5. Advocates or Proctors shall be allowed on both sides at the pleasure of the parties, not exceeding two on each side, provided they are clergymen canonically resident in the diocese, or laymen who have been communicants of some parish in the same, at least two years before the trial. And their appointment shall appear in writing at the foot of the presentment and the answer respectively;

and notice of all subsequent proceedings given to the Proctor, shall be considered notice to the party.

§ 6. The Bishop, being the Ecclesiastical Judge, presides upon all trials, and when the party accused is a clergyman, not less than three, nor more than seven Presbyters shall be assessors with him, the names of which Presbyters shall be selected by the party accused, out of the whole list of Presbyters in the diocese, who are entitled to seats in the Convention; provided always, that the Presbyters selected shall be unconnected with said party by relationship or marriage, and shall declare, in writing, with their hands subscribed thereto, that they have not prejudged the case, nor expressed any such opinion as may influence their decision. On the verdict of these assessors, or a majority of them, the Bishop may rest his judgment in the case, and the sentence which he pronounces shall be recorded before the rising of the court. Provided, always, nevertheless, that if the Bishop be related to the accused, or if he have any personal interest involved in the issue, he may, with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee, request some neighboring Bishop to preside upon the trial. And if the diocese be vacant, the Standing Committee shall request the services of such Bishop, as they may find most convenient. When the party accused is of the Laity, the assessors, in number not less than three nor more than seven, shall be selected by him out of the Wardens and Vestrymen of any two parishes which the Bishop shall nominate, under the same provision for the securing of impartial justice, as in the case of the Presbyters aforesaid.

§ 7. In all cases of presentment, when the party accused shall neglect or refuse to appear and answer, or to select the assessors, or to do any other act which shall be necessary to a fair and full investigation of the cause, according to equity and justice, and the course of Ecclesiastical proceedings, sentence of contumacy shall be declared against him: and if he be a layman, he shall be suspended from all religious ordinances in the congregation, and if he be a clergyman, he shall be suspended from the exercise of the ministerial function; and these sentences shall stand in force in each case respectively, until the party consent to a regular trial.

§ 8. All citations and notices in every ecclesiastical proceeding, whether to parties or witnesses, may be served either personally, or by leaving a copy thereof at their residences respectively; the time between the day of service and the day of appearance, being not less than twenty days over and above the ordinary time required to travel to the place of appearance. And in case there is reason to believe that a minister, against whom any ecclesiastical proceeding has been instituted, has departed from the United States, or that the place of his sojourn cannot be conveniently ascertained, then it shall be sufficient to have a copy of the citation published three times in some newspaper printed at the seat of government of the state in which he has last resided, and also three times in some newspaper printed at the seat of government of the State of Vermont, at least six months before the day of appearance. (*See Canon proposed by the house of Bishops, at the last General Convention.*)

CANON XXII.

Forasmuch as frequent legislation, or any needless fluctuation in the rules and regulations of the Church, is to be avoided, as being both troublesome and dangerous, it is hereby declared that no alteration in the Canons of the diocese shall be made, unless it be approved by the Convention on one day, and confirmed by a majority of both orders the day after.

On behalf of the Committee,

JOHN HENRY HOPKINS.

The foregoing Report having been read and accepted, it was *Resolved*, on motion of the Rev. S. A. Crane, That this Report be now read and acted upon by sections; and that the final question of adoption or rejection of the whole be taken after each section has been acted upon separately.

Pursuant to this resolution the President proceeded to read and put the question upon each section by itself; the result of which action was as follows:

The Preamble was read and adopted.

Of the Constitution, articles 1, 2, 3, and 4, were successively read and adopted.

Article 5, was read and adopted after striking out the words, 'Wednesday immediately following Whit-Sunday.'

Article 6, was read and adopted, after amending by substituting on motion, the words 'Ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese,' for 'Standing Committee,' and striking out the words, 'and by the Bishop.'

Article 7, paragraph 1, was read and adopted after striking out, on motion of the Rev. George Allen, all the first sentence following the word, 'Testament.'

Paragraph 2, was read and adopted, after striking out all the second sentence following the words, 'the next Convention,' and all the third sentence as far as the words 'according to,' and uniting the residue of the second and third sentences into one.

Articles, 8, 9, 10, were successively read and adopted.

C A N O N S .

Canon 1, was read and adopted.

Canon 2, was read and adopted.

Canon 3, was read and adopted.

Canon 4, was read and adopted. Section 2, was added by inserting section 4, of Canon 9, of Gen. Con.

Canons 5, 6, 7, were successively read and adopted.

Canon 8, Section 1, was read and adopted after striking out the word 'Whit-Sunday,' and inserting the words 'the meeting of the Convention.' Section 2, was read and adopted after striking out the words, 'the Wednesday next after Whit-Sunday, being.'

Canon 9, Sections 1, 2, were read and adopted. Section 3 was adopted after striking out all the first sentence following the word 'congregation.'

Canon 10, Section 1, was read and adopted after substituting, on motion of the Hon. S. S. Phelps, the words, 'as soon as may be,' for the words, 'at the ensuing visitation;' and the word, 'if,' for the words, 'provided, always nevertheless, that.' Sections, 2, 3, 4, were read and adopted.

On motion, by the Rev. George Allen, another Canon was added, to stand as Canon 11, by inserting the 36th Canon of the General Convention; the numbers of the remaining Canons being altered accordingly.

The Convention adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock P. M.,

2 O' CLOCK, P. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

Canons 12, 13, were read and adopted.

Canon 14, Section 1, on motion of the Rev. C. Chase, was amended by substituting the following :

Canon 14, Section 1. There shall be a meeting of every parish on Easter Monday, in every year, for the purpose of electing by ballot seven persons, of pious and sober life and conversation, for Vestrymen, to serve until the following Easter Monday, and until their places shall be supplied by another election.

The rest of Canon 14, was then read and adopted.

Canon 15, Section 1, was read and adopted. Section 2, was read and adopted, after inserting on motion of George Cleaveland, Esq., the words, 'or more,' between the adjacent words, 'hundred' and 'male.' Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, were read and adopted.

Canon 16, was read and adopted.

Canon 17, sections 1, 2, were read and adopted. Section 3 was adopted after substituting, on motion of the the Rev. C. Chase, the words 'Ecclesiastical authority,' for the word 'Bishop.'

Canon 18, Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, were read and adopted. Section 7 was read and adopted, after adding to the end of it, the words, 'if required.' Sections 8, 9, 10, were read and adopted.

Canons 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23 were successively read and adopted.

A Committee was then appointed to consider and recommend the time for holding the annual Convention, in order to fill the blank which had been made in article 5 of the Constitution.

The Rev. C. Chase, the Hon. S. S. Phelps, and the Hon. J. H. Hubbard, were appointed this committee. After consultation the

committee presented a report recommending the third Wednesday in September, as the day of the annual Convention.

This Report was accepted; and on motion the blank made by striking out the words 'Wednesday immediately following Whit-Sunday,' in Article 5 of the Constitution as reported, was filled by inserting the words 'the third Wednesday in September.'

The Constitution and Canons having thus been read, and acted upon by sections; and the final question remaining as to the adoption of the whole, on motion of the Rev. S. A. Crane, it was ~~voted~~ UNANIMOUSLY, That the Preamble, Constitution, and Canons, as now approved by the Convention, be and hereby are adopted as the Constitution and Canons of this Diocese.

The following resolution offered by the Rev. Mr. Chase, was then adopted:

Resolved, That all Canons of this Diocese passed previously to the meeting of this Convention, are hereby repealed.

On motion the Secretary was directed to print and distribute five hundred copies of the Journal of this Convention; and to print five hundred copies of the Constitution and Canons for the use of the Diocese.

On motion of Mr. Gleason, the Secretary was directed to send by mail one copy of the Constitution and Canons to each Lay Delegate of this Convention, and five copies to each Clergyman of the Diocese.

On motion the Convention proceeded to the choice of a Preacher, for the next Convention, and of a substitute in the event of his failure; and on counting the votes, it was found that the Rev. B. C. C. Parker was elected to preach before the next Convention, and the Rev. John A. Hicks, to be his substitute.

The Rev. S. A. Crane as Treasurer of the Convention, made the following report, which was read and accepted.

Received during Convention contributions to the contingent fund, as follows:

From St. Paul's Church, Burlington,	\$20,00
“ Union Church, St. Albans,	6,00
“ Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls,	10,00

From St. Paul's Church, Vergennes,	18,00
" St. James' Church, Arlington,	3,00
" Trinity Church, Rutland,	5,00
" Zion Church, Manchester,	2,00
" Calvary Church, Berkshire,	2,00
" Christ Church, Keosauqua,	2,00
" Union Church, Montgomery,	2,00
" Christ Church, Guilford,	3,25
" St. Peter's Church, Bennington,	2,00
" Trinity Church, Shelburn,	2,00
" Grace Church, Randolph,	3,00
" St. Paul's Church, Windsor,	2,00
" St. Paul's Church, Wells,	1,00
" St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,	10,00
" Zion Church, Springfield,	1,00
" Grace Church, Sheldon,	3,00
	97,25

Amount in the Treasury at the close of last Convention, 77,99

\$175,24

Paid for copying Journals,	\$30,00
" printing Journal, 1835,	31,50
" Quota to Gen. Con., 1835,	13,50
" Postage,	3,00
	78,00

Balance, \$97,24

Received of the Rev. C. Chase, collected in Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls, for Missionary purposes, within the Diocese, \$20,00

From the following Churches there were no contributions to the contingent fund:

St. Luke's Ch., Alburgh,	Trinity Ch., Pawlet,
St. John's Ch. Highgate,	St. John's Ch., Perkinsville,
Trinity Ch., Fairfield,	St. James' Ch., Woodstock,
Christ Ch., Fairfax,	Christ Ch., Bethel,
Trinity Ch., Milton,	St. Paul's Ch., Royalton,
St. John's Ch., Poultney,	St. Andrew's Ch., Norwich.

On motion, it was *Resolved*, That after the usual religious vices, this Convention do now adjourn.

Whereupon, the Convention united in the accustomed ac-
praise and supplication, and after the benediction by the Bis
adjourned, *sine die*.

JOHN HENRY HOPKINS,

President of the Conventio

Attest,

S. A. CRANE,

Secretary.

NOTICE.

The next Annual Convention of this Diocese, will be holde
St. Paul's Church, Burlington, on the third Wednesday of Sep
ber, 1837, at 9'clock, A. M.

S. A. CRANE,

Secretar

APPENDIX,
CONTAINING THE
CONSTITUTION AND CANONS,
AS FINALLY ADOPTED IN CONVENTION.

ARTICLE II.

Of the Church.

The persons constituting the Church, are 1. the Laity, consisting of all who are admitted to the Covenant of Grace, by Christian baptism;* and 2. the Clergy, who besides this, are further set apart to the sacred office of the ministry by the Apostolic rite of Ordination. Without the concurrence of both the Clergy and the Laity, no rule or law of the Church can be adopted, changed, or done away.

ARTICLE III.

Of the Ministry.

There are three orders of the Clergy established by Apostolic authority; Bishops, Priests, and Deacons. Of these, all baptise, all officiate in divine service, and all preach the Gospel; but it belongs to the Priest to administer the Eucharist, and to take the spiritual charge of a congregation. In their relative order, the Deacon is subordinate to the Priest, and the Priest to the Bishop. And the Bishop, being successor to the Apostolic order, has the sole right to ordain, to confirm, to consecrate, to pronounce sentence on offenders, to preside over the Church in his diocese or district, and to govern the same according to the Scriptures and the Canons. The Priests or Presbyters, nevertheless, are bound to counsel and advise him; and he does not act in any important matter without consulting with a portion of them, elected for that purpose by the rest, and called the Standing Committee, or Council of advice; neither does he exercise any legislative power, except in concurrence with the Clergy and the Laity, duly assembled in Convention.

ARTICLE IV.

Of the Laity.

The Laity are divided, according to local convenience, into parishes or congregations, and commit the general management of their parochial business to a portion of their own number, elected

* See Can. 29, of Gen. Con.

annually out of the parish, and called Wardens and Vestrymen. To these belong the administration of all the secular concerns of their particular society; but they have no part in the spiritual government, which belongs to the office of the ministry alone.

ARTICLE V.

Of the Convention.

The whole Church throughout the diocese meet in Convention, once in every year, on the third Wednesday in September; the Bishop presiding by virtue of his office; the parochial Clergy attending in their order, and each parish Vestry appointing delegates, who represent the Laity. Special Conventions are also holden when required by the Bishop, or, if the diocese be vacant, by the Standing Committee. And every act of legislation requires the concurrence of the Bishop. The Clergy and the Laity may elect officers and pass resolutions of advice or recommendation, without a Diocesan; but they cannot, without Episcopal concurrence, enact, alter, or abrogate any law, or Canon.

ARTICLE VI.

Of the organization of Congregations.

Congregations and parishes, in order to be admitted into connexion with the diocese, shall present to the Bishop, one month before the meeting of the Convention, a written instrument, containing their articles of association, and signed by the male members of the parish. This instrument must allege the fact, that they are entitled to the privileges of a distinct religious society, by the laws of the state; and further, that they adopt, receive, and promise entire conformity to the Constitution and Canons of the diocese of Vermont; which document being laid before the Ecclesiastical authority of the diocese, and approved by them, the society making application may elect their Wardens and Vestry-men, and their delegates may be received at the next Convention.

ARTICLE VII.

Of the provision to be made for the General Fund.

The duty of providing for the support and maintenance of the

ministry, is plainly declared in the Old and the New Testament; but in order that the whole Church in the diocese may know and provide for the temporal condition of each part, the following rules are to be observed :

At every Convention the lay delegates shall report to the Bishop the temporal condition of their respective parishes ; stating their income, their debts, and the amount of their minister's salary. When these reports are laid before the Convention, the laity shall proceed to fix the quota which each parish shall pay to the general fund of the diocese at the next Convention, according to the circumstances of each parish respectively. A failure to pay this quota may be accounted for satisfactorily ; and in such case, the Convention, by vote, may accept the excuse ; but if it be not paid, and no sufficient excuse be offered, the parish in default shall be admonished ; and if it continue in default for two successive Conventions, it may be, on motion, stricken from the list of the diocese, until due satisfaction be made. The general fund, thus supplied, shall be expended according to the votes of the Convention.

ARTICLE VIII.

Of the administration of Ecclesiastical Justice.

All cases of presentment of Clergy or Laymen, either for error in religion, whether it respects faith or morals, for breach of the Constitution and Canons of the Church, or for any offence which involves a violation of the baptismal or ordination vow, are tried before the Bishop, as Ecclesiastical Judge, assisted by his Council of Advice, or by other Presbyters appointed for the purpose, according to the rules of Ecclesiastical law, and the Canons of this diocese, in such case made and provided.

ARTICLE IX.

Of the duty of understanding the Laws of the Church.

It is the duty of ministers, wardens, and vestrymen, to make themselves familiar with the Constitution and Canons of the diocese ; and to this end, every parish shall have eight copies of the same substantially bound, one for the minister, and one for each

warden and vestryman, to be consulted by them, and delivered to their successors in office.

ARTICLE X.

Of the mode of altering the Constitution.

The mode of altering or adding to the Constitution shall be as follows, viz : a proposition for amendment shall be laid before the Convention in writing, and if approved, shall lie over till the next annual Convention ; and if then approved by the Bishop, and by two thirds of the Clergy, and by two thirds of the Laity present, voting by orders, the proposed amendment shall become a part of the Constitution.

CANONS.

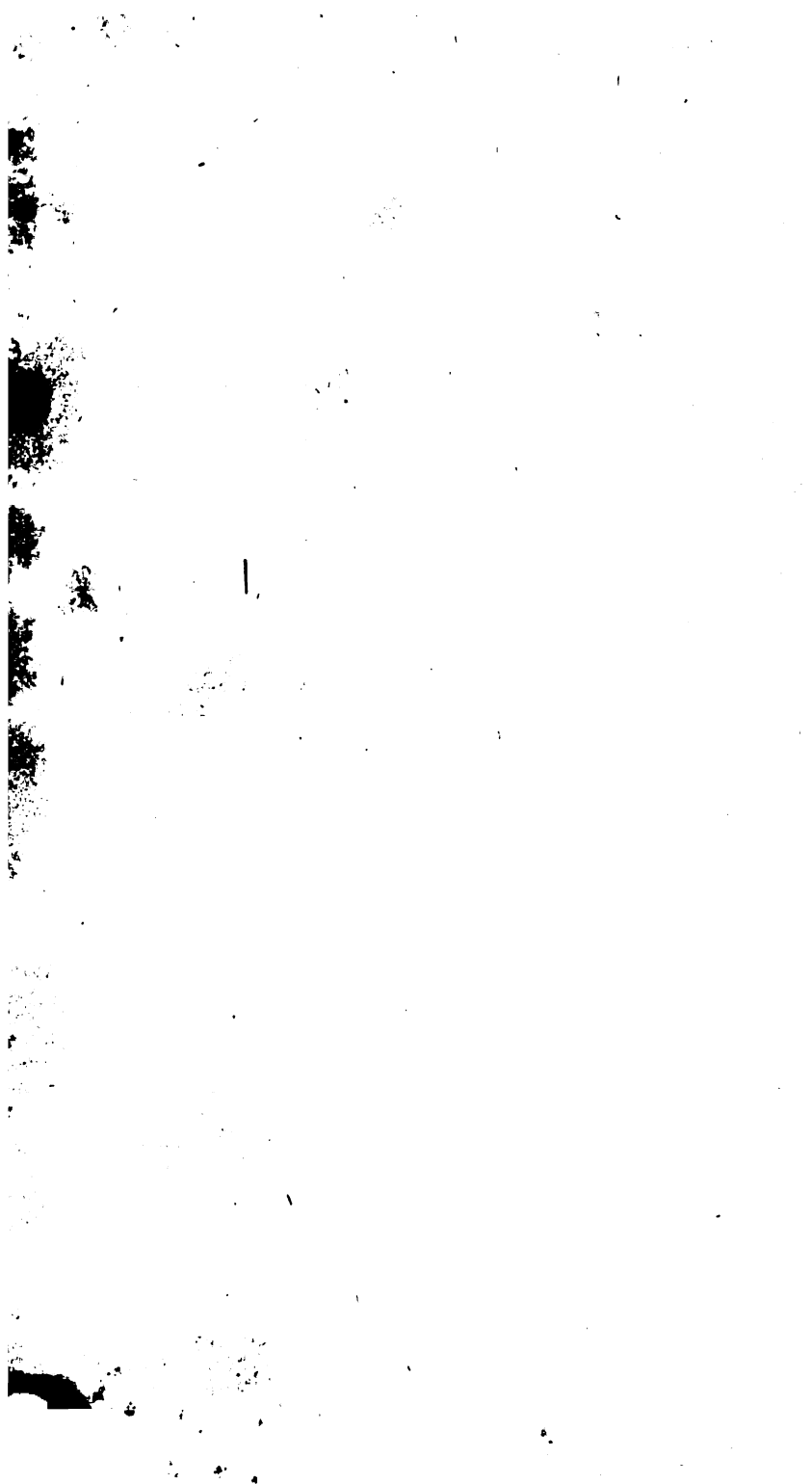
CANON I.

Of the Standing Committee or Council of Advice.

§ 1. At every annual Convention, five Presbyters shall be elected as the Standing Committee, or Bishop's Council of Advice, for the ensuing year. They shall elect from their own body, a President and Secretary. They may meet on their own adjournment, from time to time, and the President shall have power to summon special meetings whenever he shall deem it necessary.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a regular record of all their proceedings, in a book which shall belong to the registry of the diocese ; and which, together with all papers in possession of the Committee, shall be open to the inspection of the Bishop, or the Convention, when required.

§ 3. The Council shall be summoned on the requisition of the Bishop, whenever he shall wish for their advice, and they may meet of their own accord, and agreeably to their own rules, when they may be disposed to advise the Bishop.



PREAMBLE.

HEREAS it is desirable that those important Constitutional principles which distinguish the Protestant Episcopal Church, should fully exhibited and thoroughly understood amongst her people, and that her whole system of law and government should be presented in a brief and simple form, within the reach of all, so as to leave the least possible ground for ignorance or error :

Therefore, the Clergy and Laity of the said Church, in the Diocese of Vermont, duly assembled in Convention, at St. Paul's Church, Windsor, on this 25th day of May, A. D. 1836, have set forth the following Constitution and Canons, declaratory of the said principles, and for a guide in the administration thereof, as follows, viz :

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

Of the Bible, the book of Common Prayer, &c.

This Church acknowledges and receives the revealed Word of God, contained in the canonical books of the Old and New Testament, as the only infallible rule of faith and practice, to which her doctrines, her worship, and her government, are all referred. And next after the Holy Scriptures, this Church adopts the standard established in the book of Common Prayer, and the Constitution and Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, set forth by the General Convention.

ARTICLE II.

Of the Church.

The persons constituting the Church, are 1. the Laity, consisting of all who are admitted to the Covenant of Grace, by Christian baptism;* and 2. the Clergy, who besides this, are further set apart to the sacred office of the ministry by the Apostolic rite of Ordination. Without the concurrence of both the Clergy and the Laity, no rule or law of the Church can be adopted, changed, or done away.

ARTICLE III.

Of the Ministry.

There are three orders of the Clergy established by Apostolic authority; Bishops, Priests, and Deacons. Of these, all baptise, all officiate in divine service, and all preach the Gospel; but it belongs to the Priest to administer the Eucharist, and to take the spiritual charge of a congregation. In their relative order, the Deacon is subordinate to the Priest, and the Priest to the Bishop. And the Bishop, being successor to the Apostolic order, has the sole right to ordain, to confirm, to consecrate, to pronounce sentence on offenders, to preside over the Church in his diocese or district, and to govern the same according to the Scriptures and the Canons. The Priests or Presbyters, nevertheless, are bound to counsel and advise him; and he does not act in any important matter without consulting with a portion of them, elected for that purpose by the rest, and called the Standing Committee, or Council of advice; neither does he exercise any legislative power, except in concurrence with the Clergy and the Laity, duly assembled in Convention.

ARTICLE IV.

Of the Laity.

The Laity are divided, according to local convenience, into parishes or congregations, and commit the general management of their parochial business to a portion of their own number, elected

* See Can. 29, of Gen. Con.

annually out of the parish, and called Wardens and Vestrymen. To these belong the administration of all the secular concerns of their particular society; but they have no part in the spiritual government, which belongs to the office of the ministry alone.

ARTICLE V.

Of the Convention.

The whole Church throughout the diocese meet in Convention, once in every year, on the third Wednesday in September; the Bishop presiding by virtue of his office; the parochial Clergy attending in their order, and each parish Vestry appointing delegates, who represent the Laity. Special Conventions are also holden when required by the Bishop, or, if the diocese be vacant, by the Standing Committee. And every act of legislation requires the concurrence of the Bishop. The Clergy and the Laity may elect officers and pass resolutions of advice or recommendation, without a Diocesan; but they cannot, without Episcopal concurrence, enact, alter, or abrogate any law, or Canon.

ARTICLE VI.

Of the organization of Congregations.

Congregations and parishes, in order to be admitted into connexion with the diocese, shall present to the Bishop, one month before the meeting of the Convention, a written instrument, containing their articles of association, and signed by the male members of the parish. This instrument must allege the fact, that they are entitled to the privileges of a distinct religious society, by the laws of the state; and further, that they adopt, receive, and promise entire conformity to the Constitution and Canons of the diocese of Vermont; which document being laid before the Ecclesiastical authority of the diocese, and approved by them, the society making application may elect their Wardens and Vestry-men, and their delegates may be received at the next Convention.

ARTICLE VII.

Of the provision to be made for the General Fund.

The duty of providing for the support and maintenance of the

ministry, is plainly declared in the Old and the New Testament; but in order that the whole Church in the diocese may know and provide for the temporal condition of each part, the following rules are to be observed :

At every Convention the lay delegates shall report to the Bishop the temporal condition of their respective parishes ; stating their income, their debts, and the amount of their minister's salary. When these reports are laid before the Convention, the laity shall proceed to fix the quota which each parish shall pay to the general fund of the diocese at the next Convention, according to the circumstances of each parish respectively. A failure to pay this quota may be accounted for satisfactorily ; and in such case, the Convention, by vote, may accept the excuse ; but if it be not paid, and no sufficient excuse be offered, the parish in default shall be admonished ; and if it continue in default for two successive Conventions, it may be, on motion, stricken from the list of the diocese, until due satisfaction be made. The general fund, thus supplied, shall be expended according to the votes of the Convention.

ARTICLE VIII.

Of the administration of Ecclesiastical Justice.

All cases of presentment of Clergy or Laymen, either for error in religion, whether it respects faith or morals, for breach of the Constitution and Canons of the Church, or for any offence which involves a violation of the baptismal or ordination vow, are tried before the Bishop, as Ecclesiastical Judge, assisted by his Council of Advice, or by other Presbyters appointed for the purpose, according to the rules of Ecclesiastical law, and the Canons of this diocese, in such case made and provided.

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warden and vestryman, to be consulted by them, and delivered to their successors in office.

ARTICLE X.

Of the mode of altering the Constitution.

The mode of altering or adding to the Constitution shall be as follows, viz: a proposition for amendment shall be laid before the Convention in writing, and if approved, shall lie over till the next annual Convention; and if then approved by the Bishop, and by two thirds of the Clergy, and by two thirds of the Laity present, voting by orders, the proposed amendment shall become a part of the Constitution.

CANONS.

CANON I.

Of the Standing Committee or Council of Advice.

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§ 2. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a regular record of all their proceedings, in a book which shall belong to the registry of the diocese; and which, together with all papers in possession of the Committee, shall be open to the inspection of the Bishop, or the Convention, when required.

§ 3. The Council shall be summoned on the requisition of the Bishop, whenever he shall wish for their advice, and they may meet of their own accord, and agreeably to their own rules, when they may be disposed to advise the Bishop.

§ 4. When the diocese is vacant through the death or resignation of the Bishop, it shall be the duty of the President of Council, to call a meeting forthwith, and after consultation as to the time and place, to summon a special Convention of the diocese to elect a successor with all convenient speed.*

CANON II.

Of Candidates for Orders.

§ 1. Every person desirous of becoming a candidate for the office of the ministry, and being not less than eighteen years of age shall give notice of his intention to the Bishop, or if there be no Bishop, to the President of the Standing Committee; and in order to his admission as a candidate he shall present to the Bishop a certificate from the said Standing Committee, testifying that from personal knowledge or from testimonials laid before them, they believe that he is pious, sober, and honest; that he is attached to the doctrines, discipline and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and is a communicant of the same; and in their opinion he possesses such qualifications as will render him apt and meet to exercise the ministry, to the glory of God and the edifying of the Church. And when the Standing Committee do not certify above from personal knowledge, the testimonials laid before them shall be of the same tenor as the certificate above required, and shall be signed by the minister, wardens, and vestry of the congregation to which the applicant belongs, at a regular vestry meeting. Or if this cannot be done on account of peculiar circumstances not affecting the character of the applicant, the said testimonials may be signed by one Presbyter, and four respectable laymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

§ 2. In addition to the above testimonials, the applicant must present before the Standing Committee a satisfactory diploma, or a certificate from the instructor or instructors of some approved and duly incorporated literary institution; which certificate must state what he has accomplished in his studies, and the extent of his improvement in them; or a certificate from two Presbyters appointed by the Bishop to examine him

* See Can. 4, Gen. Con.

stating that the applicant possesses such academical learning as may enable him to enter advantageously on a course of theology.

§ 3. The applicant must further understand that the Church expects of him—what can never be brought to the test of any outward standard—an inward fear and worship of Almighty God; a love of religion and a sensibility to its holy influences; a habit of devout affection; and a cultivation of all those graces, which are called, in Scripture, the fruits of the Spirit, and by which alone his sacred influences can be manifested.

§ 4. These requisitions being fulfilled, the applicant may be admitted as a candidate for Orders by the Bishop, or if there be no Bishop, by the Standing Committee, and he shall continue a candidate for the term of three years before his ordination, unless the Bishop, with the consent of the Standing Committee, shall deem it expedient to ordain him after the expiration of a shorter period, not less than one year.

§ 5. No person residing within this diocese, and desirous of being admitted a candidate for Holy Orders, can apply to the Bishop or Standing Committee of any other diocese, without the consent of the ecclesiastical authority of this diocese first obtained.*

§ 6. No candidate for Orders or other person of the laity is allowed to perform the service of the Church, without a written license from the Bishop, or, if there be no Bishop, from the Standing Committee. And such licensed reader shall submit to all the regulations prescribed in his letter of license. He is not at liberty to use the absolution or benediction, nor to assume the garments appropriate to the clergy, nor to officiate in the pulpit, nor to read any other sermons than those which are pointed out to him; nor, except in cases of extraordinary emergency, is he allowed to perform any part of the service, when a clergyman is present.†

C A N O N I I I .

Of the age of those who are ordained or consecrated to the Orders of the ministry.

§ 1. Deacons' Orders cannot be conferred on any person until

* See Can. 9, of Gen. Con.

† See Can. 11, of Gen. Con.

he has attained the full age of twenty-one years; nor Priests' Orders until he has attained the age of twenty-four. And no Deacon can be ordained Priest, until the expiration of one year, unless for reasonable causes, it shall seem good unto the Bishop.

§ 2. No man can be consecrated a Bishop until he has attained the full age of thirty years.*

CANON IV.

Of the qualifications of those who apply for Deacon's Orders.

§ 1. Every candidate for Deacons' Orders shall undergo four different examinations in the presence of the Bishop and two or more Presbyters; the first of which shall be on some approved treatises on Natural Philosophy, Moral philosophy, and Rhetoric, and in the Hebrew Bible, the Greek Testament, and the Latin Tongue. The second examination shall be on the books of Scripture, in which he shall give an account of the different books and explain such passages as may be proposed to him. The third examination shall be on the evidences of Christianity, and Systematic Divinity. And the last examination shall be on Church History, Ecclesiastical Polity, the book of Common Prayer, and the Constitution and Canons of the General Convention and of this diocese. And in each of the said examinations, he shall read a sermon or discourse composed by himself, on some passage of Scripture previously assigned him; all of which shall be submitted to the criticism of the Bishop and Clergy. And one, at least, of the first four discourses shall be composed by the candidate, in a room appointed for the purpose, without any books to assist him, except a Bible and Concordance, and within the space of two successive days.†

§ 2. When a person applying to be admitted a candidate, without the knowledge of the Latin, Greek, and Hebrew languages, and other branches of learning not strictly ecclesiastical, to be dispensed with, the Standing Committee shall not recommend him as a candidate until he has laid before them a testimonial, signed by at least two Presbyters of this Church, stating that in their opinion he possesses extraordinary strength of natural understanding, a pecu-

* See Can. 8, of Gen. Con.

† See Can. 14, of Gen. Con.

aptitude to teach, and a large share of prudence; and the Bishop, with the consent of a majority of the Members of the Standing Committee, shall have approved said dispensation. This dispensation shall not be granted to any person under twenty-seven years of age, nor shall any person be ordained under such a dispensation until he shall have attained thirty years of age. And in regard to the knowledge of the Hebrew language, the Bishop shall have the sole discretion of dispensation, without reference to the age of the candidate as mentioned in this section.*

CANON V.

Of the caution to be used by those who sign the certificates of candidates for Orders.

Forasmuch as nothing more deeply wounds the peace of the Church and the honor of the Gospel, than the admission of unworthy men to the office of the ministry, care shall be taken, that the certificates given to candidates be in all cases founded on reasonable evidence of the facts therein alleged. And if, in any case, it be found that they have been signed rashly and unadvisedly, without due care and caution, the signers, whether clergymen or laymen, shall be liable to ecclesiastical censure.†

CANON VI.

Of Deacons.

Every Deacon is subject to the direction of the Bishop, as to the place or places in which he shall officiate.‡

CANON VII.

Of Priests.

No person shall be admitted to Priests' Orders until he has been examined in presence of the Bishop and two or more Presbyters, on some of the topics prescribed in the course of Theological studies. And he shall also produce to the Bishop a satisfactory certificate from

* See Can. 9, § 4, Gen. Con.

† See Can. 14, of Gen. Con.

‡ See Can. 17, of Gen. Con.

some parish vestry or vestries of the diocese, that they will receive him as their minister and allow him an adequate maintenance; he must be engaged as a professor, tutor, or instructor of youth, some duly incorporated College, or Seminary of learning, or be employed in the service of some missionary society, recognised by a General Convention.*

CANON VIII.

Of the times when Candidates are examined and ordained.

§ 1. The stated time for Candidates to be examined for Holy Orders shall be the week before the meeting of the Convention; and the examinations shall commence on the Monday of said week, and be continued until Saturday inclusive, allowing four full days for the subjects on which the candidates are required to answer, and two days for the composition of the discourse, specified in the first section of Canon IV.

§ 2. The stated times of ordination are the Sundays following the Ember weeks,† or the day appointed for the opening of the Convention. But occasional ordinations may be held at such other times as the Bishop, with the advice of his Council, shall appoint.

CANON IX.

Of Episcopal Visitations.

§ 1. Once in three years, at least, and every year when practicable, the Bishop visits the several parishes of his diocese, for the purpose of examining the state of each congregation, inspecting the conduct of the clergy, and administering the Apostolic rite of Confirmation. The expenses attendant upon this visitation shall be defrayed by the parishes visited, or if not, they shall be paid out of the general fund of the Convention.‡

§ 2. When notice is received from the Bishop of his intention to visit any parish, the minister shall communicate the same both publicly and privately to his congregation, as opportunity may offer, and he shall diligently seek for, and prepare for Confirmation, su

* See Can. 19, of Gen. Con.

† See Can. 20, of Gen. Con.

‡ See Can. 25, of Gen. Con.

persons as he shall think properly qualified; and shall present them to the Bishop, and give him a list of their names.

§ 3. On the day of the Bishop's arrival, the Minister, Wardens, and Vestry, shall have a meeting with him, at the house where he lodges, for the purpose of communicating to him all the facts touching the state of the congregation. For the diocese is as one family, over which the Bishop, under Christ, is bound to preside: and he cannot perform this duty aright, if the knowledge of the condition of every member is not fully imparted to him.*

CANON X.

Of Parish Ministers.

§ 1. On the election of a minister by the Vestry and Wardens of any parish, they shall transmit to the Bishop notice of the same to this effect: 'We, the Church Wardens, of _____ Church, do certify, that on the _____ day of _____ the Rev. A. B. was duly chosen Rector,' (or minister, or assistant minister, as the case may be) 'of the said Church, on the following conditions,' (here the agreement is to be stated,) 'Witness our hands.'

And together with the foregoing certificate, the elected minister shall state whether the terms of the said election are satisfactory to him, and if the Bishop approves of the same, and signifies his consent, the engagement is ratified and confirmed accordingly; and the person elected, if a Priest, shall be instituted as soon as may be, if the parish possess a house of worship which has been regularly consecrated according to the order of the Liturgy.†

§ 2. Every parochial minister shall be faithful in the observance of the rules and customs of the Church, as the same are set forth by the Bishop, in order that no unseemly diversities may disturb the peace and unity of the diocese.

§ 3. Every parochial minister shall keep a registry of baptisms, confirmations, communicants, marriages, and funerals, within his cure, in a book provided by the parish, and belonging to the same.

* See Can. 26, of Gen. Con.

† See Can. 20, of Gen. Con.

§ 4. He shall also be diligent to teach the children of his congregation in the Catechism, and shall devote, at the least, a sufficient portion of the afternoon services of the Sundays in Lent, publicly before the congregation, to the instructing the children and youth in the Catechism, the Worship, and the Constitution of the Church.*

CANON XI.

Of the Officiating of persons not Ministers of the Church.

No person shall be permitted to officiate in any congregation of this Church without first producing the evidences of his being a Minister thereof, to the Minister, or in case of vacancy or absence, to the Church Wardens, Vestrymen, or Trustees of the congregation.†

CANON XII.

Of the Dissolution of the Parochial engagement.

As no minister can be regularly settled in any parish, without the concurrence of the Bishop, so neither can he be dismissed without the same; and in case of his dismissal without such concurrence, the parish concerned shall have no right to a representation in the Convention, until they have made such satisfaction as justice may require. Nor shall any minister leave his congregation against their will without the same concurrence; and if he shall so leave them, he shall not be allowed to take his seat in Convention, nor be eligible into any other parish, until he has made such satisfaction as justice may require.‡

CANON XIII.

Of the due celebration of Sunday.

All persons within this Church shall celebrate and keep the Lord's day, commonly called Sunday, in hearing the word of God read and taught, in private and public prayer, in other exercises of devotion, and in acts of charity, using all godly and sober conversation.||

* See Can. 28 and 29, of Gen. Con.

† See Can. 33, of Gen. Con.

‡ See Can. 36, of Gen. Con.

|| See Can. 41, of Gen. Con.

CANON XIV.

Of the Election and duty of Wardens and Vestry-men.

§ 1. There shall be a meeting of every parish on Easter Monday, in every year, for the purpose of electing by ballot seven persons, of pious and sober life and conversation, for Vestry-men, to serve until the following Easter Monday, and until their places shall be supplied by another election.

§ 2. Notice of this election shall be given by the minister after morning prayer, on the day before, being Easter Sunday, or during his absence, by the senior Warden, or by such person as shall have officiated in the reading of the Church service. And the minister, if a Rector, or in his absence, the senior Warden, shall preside at the election.

§ 3. The Vestry when elected, together with the Wardens, the Secretary and the Treasurer of the former Vestry, shall meet at a time and place appointed; the time being always some part of the same day or evening. And the Rector shall always preside at this and every meeting of the Vestry, and open the proceedings with a Collect or Collects, and the Lord's Prayer, and close them with the Apostolic benediction. But if the Rector be absent, or the parish be vacant, then the senior Warden shall preside and perform the same duty. And the first act of the new Vestry, shall be to appoint the two Wardens from their own number; one of which, the senior Warden, shall be nominated by the Rector, and the junior Warden shall be elected by the Vestrymen. They shall also elect one of their number to be the Secretary, and another to be the Treasurer for the ensuing year. And as soon as these various appointments are made, the Secretary of the former Vestry shall deliver to the new Secretary, the records of the parish; and the Treasurer shall pay over the balance in his hands, and transfer the accounts in proper order; and their offices shall thereupon cease and determine. The Wardens and Vestry shall then proceed to the election of one or more delegates to represent the parish in the ensuing Convention of the diocese, who shall always be elected from among themselves.

§ 4. It is the duty of the Wardens and Vestry, to consider and determine upon the election of a minister if the parish be vacant; to see that he be well provided for and punctually paid; to make and execute all contracts for the erection, the furnishing, the repair and the due preservation of the Church edifice, the parsonage, other parish property; to regulate the use of the grave yard; to employ an organist, or chorister; to hire a sexton, and generally to transact, as the constituted representatives and authorized agents of the congregation, all the temporal business connected with objects for which the parish was organized, in such way and manner as the society may by vote authorize and direct. And for determining on all and every point herein involved, they shall hold such meetings as the Rector, or in his absence, the senior Warden may deem necessary; the Secretary giving due notice of the same, or the Rector giving the same notice from the desk, on the previous Sunday.

§ 5. It is the special duty of the Wardens, to provide out of parish funds, the elements for each celebration of the Lord's Supper; to collect the alms offered at the same; to keep watch over the due preparation of the Church for every occasion of public worship; to see that it is kept duly warmed, ventilated, cleaned in good repair; to provide a sufficient supply of garments and books to be used in public worship by the minister, to regulate and superintend the mode in which the sexton, door-keeper and other inferior officers of the Church, perform their duty; to attend to the accommodation of the congregation with seats, and to suppress all disorder in time of public worship. In the fulfilment of these duties, the members of the Vestry are all bound to render such assistance as the Wardens may require; and the whole together shews the importance and value of these offices to the welfare of the parish, and the esteem and respect due to those who faithfully fulfil the same.

CANON XV.

Of the Convention.

§ 1. The annual meeting of the Convention shall be held

C A N O N X X .

Of the number necessary to constitute a Quorum.

A quorum of the Convention, for ordinary purposes, shall consist of any number of members, being not less than seven of the Clergy, and the like number of the Laity, provided the Bishop be present. But in his absence, such number shall not have power to do more than receive the usual reports, and elect the ordinary officers. In the election of a Bishop, two thirds of the Clergy shall be present, and a majority of all the parishes entitled to delegates shall be represented, before the Convention can proceed. In all other cases, a majority of the body having authority to act constitute a quorum.

C A N O N X X I .

Of the continuance of Officers in their Office.

In all cases whatever, of failure or omission to elect officers, whether Conventional or Parochial, the persons last elected shall continue to serve till others be chosen.

C A N O N X X I I .

Of the Administration of Ecclesiastical Justice.

§ 1. There shall be no trial in any case without a regular presentment made by the Standing Committee.

§ 2. In all cases of presentment, whether of clergymen or laymen, a copy of the charge or charges, with all the proper specifications, together with a citation to appear and answer, shall be served upon the party accused with all convenient speed, in the manner hereinafter provided.

§ 3. The regular place of trial, and the office for the records of all Ecclesiastical proceedings, shall be the house of the Bishop. But if there be no Bishop, the Standing Committee shall appoint the place for these purposes; and the Bishop, by and with the concurrence of his Council of Advice, may appoint any place within his diocese for the trial, if there be any special reason moving him thereto.

When there is no Bishop, the President of the Standing Committee presides, as Chairman or Moderator. And if he cannot attend, the Convention elect a Chairman from the Clergy present. A Secretary and Treasurer, a Standing Committee, and Delegates to the General Convention shall be elected at each Convention.

§ 5. Of the officers above named, the Chairman, the Secretary, and the Treasurer, shall always be elected by a joint vote of the whole house. The Standing Committee being composed of Clergymen, shall be elected by the votes of the Clergy alone, as also the clerical members of the delegation to the General Convention. The Laymen appointed to be members of the delegation shall be elected by the Laity alone; and all elections shall be by ballot.

§ 6. When a Bishop is to be elected, the Convention shall always vote in distinct orders. The Clergy shall make a nomination by ballot, and two thirds of the Lay Delegates shall concur by ballot, in order to constitute an election.

§ 7. When the Bishop, or if there be no Bishop, the Standing Committee, shall deem it expedient to call a Special Convention, seven weeks notice shall be given to every Minister and to one of the Wardens of each parish in the diocese. And the notice shall express the special object or objects, for which said Convention is summoned, and no other subject shall be proposed or determined upon in the said Convention.

CANON XVI.

Of the publication of the Proceedings of Convention.

The sessions of the Convention are not open to the public; and none but the members of the same, and persons specially invited, are authorized to attend. But the proceedings of each Convention shall be published by the Secretary, under the supervision of the Bishop, as soon as practicable after the close of each session, and the Secretary shall send two copies to each Clergyman within the diocese, and one copy to each Warden and Vestryman of every parish; and also to each Bishop of the Church, and to every Secretary of Convention, and to every member of a Standing Committee, throughout the United States.

CANON XVII.

Of the Secretary and Treasurer.

§ 1. The Secretary of the Convention shall keep full and exact records of all its acts, in a fit book, together with all papers, documents, memorials, &c. belonging to the same, duly endorsed, and filed in such way that they can be easily consulted, whenever at any time, recourse to them may be necessary. He shall also prepare, under the direction of the Bishop, at least one week before the meeting of Convention, a list of all ministers canonically resident in the diocese, annexing their respective stations, or, if they are not engaged, their places of residence only, and stating whether they are Priests or Deacons; but not inserting the name of any clergyman who may be suspended from the ministry. The list thus prepared shall be laid before the Convention immediately after it shall be called to order, and the names of the clerical members shall be called therefrom.

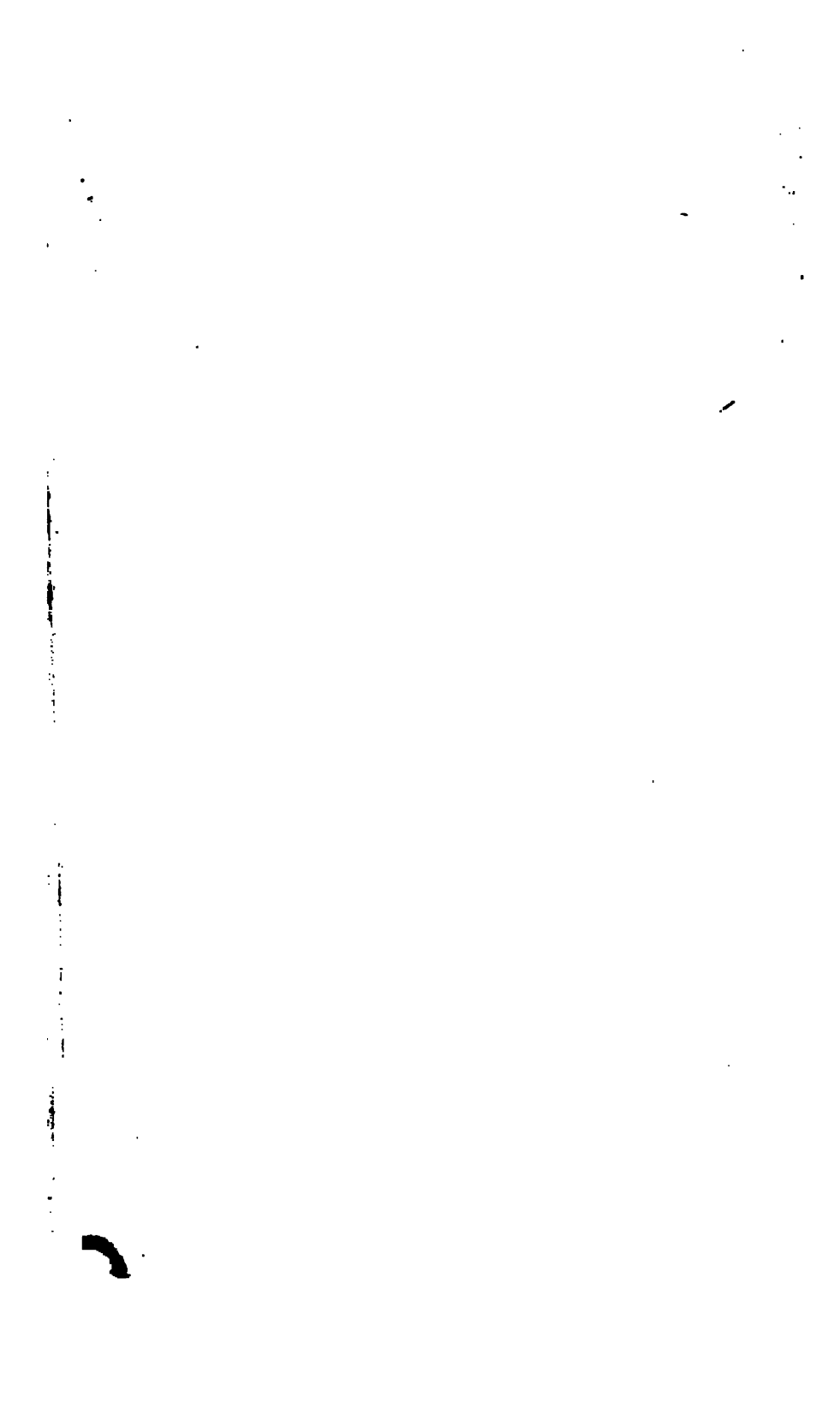
§ 2. The Treasurer shall have the charge of the general fund of the diocese, and shall keep a strict account of the same in a fit book, with a distinct place therein for each parish, and shall endorse and file away in like manner, all warrants, orders, or papers belonging to his department, and shall have his accounts duly audited by the Standing Committee, the week before the meeting of the Convention in every year.

§ 3. When a vacancy occurs in the office either of Secretary or Treasurer, the Ecclesiastical authority shall appoint a Secretary or Treasurer for the time, who shall receive the records and the funds from the hands of the former officers or their legal representatives, and shall continue in office until the ensuing Convention shall have elected some other person to fill the same.

CANON XVIII.

Of the rules of Order of the Convention.

§ 1. The Morning Prayer of the Church shall be performed every day during the session of the Convention, at which all persons may attend.



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OF THE
FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION
OF THE
Protestant Episcopal Church,
IN THE
DIOCESE OF VERMONT.
1837.



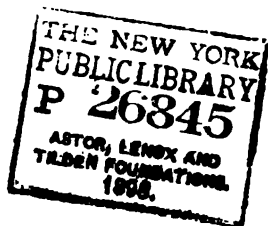
JOURNAL
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OF THE
FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION,
OF THE
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN THE
DIOCESE OF VERMONT;
HELD IN
ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, BURLINGTON,
ON THE
TWENTIETH AND TWENTY-FIRST DAYS OF SEPTEMBER,
1837.

BURLINGTON:
HIRAM JOHNSON & Co.
1837.



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JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS, &c.

St. Paul's Church, Burlington, }
Sept. 20. 1837. }

In conformity with the Constitution and Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the diocese of Vermont, the Bishop and several of the Clergy and Lay-Delegates from the Parishes, assembled this day in St. Paul's Church, Burlington; and at nine o'clock A. M. the Convention was called to order by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Hopkins, who took the Chair, *ex-officio*, the Rev. A. Crane, *Secretary*.

On calling the list of the Clergy entitled to seats in the Convention, and of the Parishes entitled to representation in the same, a quorum of both Clergy and Laity was found to be present, and the Convention was duly organized.

The clergy present were the Rt. Rev. Bishop Hopkins, the Rev. Messrs. George Allen, Darius Barker, Carlton Chase, S.

Crane, John A. Hicks, Louis McDonald, James Sabine, and T. Sabine, and Alvi Tabor Twing.

The Lay-Delegates present were Messrs. R. G. Cole, Timothy F. Strong, Jacob Owen, Joshua Isham, Cyrus B. Hills, A. Wiley, David B. Lewis, Jas. Cook, Alex. Fleming, and P. Flinn.

On motion of the Rev. George Allen,

Resolved, That Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, not canonically entitled to seats in this Convention, all clergymen of the Church of England, and all candidates for Holy Orders in this Church, who may be in town, be and hereby invited to attend the sittings of this Convention.

Whereupon, the Rev. Messrs. Fay, Hoit, Mason, and Thompson of this diocese, and the Rev. J. A. Vaughan, Foreign Secretary of the Missionary Society, the Rev. Wm. H. Lewis of the Eastern

Diocese, and Messrs. Spooner, Staples, Pratt, Hopkins, and Putnam, candidates for Holy Orders in this diocese, appeared and were admitted to honorary seats in the Convention.

On motion of the Rev. George Allen,

Resolved, That St. Stephen's Church, Tinmouth, be and hereby is admitted into union with this Convention : whereupon, Spencer Waldo presented his certificate, and took his seat in Convention as Lay-Delegate from said Church.

On motion of the Rev. Carlton Chase, the following Preamble and Resolution were adopted, viz : Whereas, by reference to pages 24 and 101 of the Journal of the General Convention of 1835, there appears to have been some proceedings in the two houses in relation to the manner of repeating the General Confession in the morning and evening service : Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Bishop of this diocese is hereby respectfully requested to lay before this Convention in writing his views of the import and bearing of the said Proceedings, and to state whether, in his judgment, our Clergy and Churches are thereby placed absolutely under an obligation, when that Confession occurs in place, to repeat it *simultaneously*.

On motion of the Rev. George Allen,

Resolved, That this Convention do now adjourn to attend Divine Service and meet again at 3 o'clock, P. M.

St. Paul's Church, Burlington, }
3 o'clock, P. M. }

The Convention met according to adjournment. The certificates of the following Lay-Delegates, not present in the morning, were received, viz : Messrs. Micah J. Catlin, Rufus Hamilton, Orange Ferris, Gardner G. Smith, Isaac J. Potter, Lyman Hawley, Asa Lyons 2d, Philip C. Tucker, George Cleveland, Nahum Parker, Jonathan Chipman Thrall, and Luther Thrall ; all of whom accordingly took their seats.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop of the diocese then delivered his address.

ADDRESS.

BELOVED BRETHREN :

After an intermission much longer than usual, in consequence of the change adopted at the previous Convention of the diocese, the good Providence of God has allowed us to meet again, for the purpose of mutual consultation and encouragement. I shall not occupy your attention by any formal preface, but shall, first, in obedience to the canon, briefly report my official acts, since the time of our last assembling together; and then I shall state the subjects which appear, to my mind, most worthy of your consideration.

July 10th, 1836, I visited Trinity Church, Shelburn, which is under the pastoral care of Rev. Silas A. Crane, where I preached, and confirmed seven persons.

August 14th, I visited St. Paul's Church, Vergennes, then under the pastoral care of Rev. Charles Fay, where I preached, and confirmed twenty-three persons.

November the 6th, being the twenty-third Sunday after Trinity, I visited Grace Church Randolph, under the ministerial care of Rev. John T. Sabine, preached, and confirmed five persons.

Monday, Nov. 7th, I visited Christ Church Bethel, under the pastoral care of Rev. James Sabine, where I preached, and confirmed four persons.

Proceeding in the afternoon of the same day to St. Paul's Church, Royalton, I found the edifice which this young and zealous society had erected, nearly finished, but not sufficiently to allow of our holding worship in it. I preached in the Academy, however, to a very crowded congregation in the evening,

and confirmed nine persons, who were presented by the Rector, the Rev. James Sabine.

Tuesday, Nov. 8, I visited St. James' Church, Woodstock, under the pastoral care of Rev. B.C.C. Parker, where I preached, and confirmed ten persons.

Wednesday, Nov. 9, I visited St. Paul's Church, Windsor, under the pastoral care of Rev. Darius Barker, where I preached and confirmed three persons.

Thursday, Nov. 10, I proceeded to Union Church, Springfield, then under the pastoral care of Rev. Luman Foote, where I preached, and confirmed six persons.

Friday, Nov. 11, I visited Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls, under the pastoral care of Rev. Carlton Chase, where I preached, and confirmed ten persons.

Saturday, Nov. 12, I proceeded to St. Peter's Church, Brattleboro', under the ministerial care of Rev. David S. Devens, where I was gratified to find that the society, though so recently organized, had fair prospects of success. Like the first body of disciples, they occupied an upper room, comfortably fitted for their temporary accommodation, where I preached in the evening.

Sunday, Nov. 13, I visited Christ Church, Guilford, then without a pastor, preached, confirmed six persons, and administered the communion. In the afternoon, I proceeded to the centre village, and preached: and then returning to Brattleboro', preached at night to a very crowded congregation, and confirmed three persons.

Monday, Nov. 14, I proceeded to St. Peter's Church, Bennington, under the pastoral care of Rev. Nath. O. Preston, of the diocese of New York. In this parish I was gratified to find a handsome and convenient building, almost finished. The congregation, however, still occupied the Academy, where I preached on the following morning.

Thursday, Nov. 15, I proceeded to St. James' Church, Arlington, then without a pastor, where I was occupied, together

with my Reverend brethren, the clergy appointed for that purpose, in the trial of the Rev. Wm. S. Perkins, on certain charges preferred against him by the Standing Committee, a considerable time before. Much delay and trouble had arisen in this case, chiefly on account of the very imperfect state of our ecclesiastical regulations. Nor was it practicable to dispose of it in a satisfactory manner, until the legislation of the Church, on certain points of order, which was happily completed at the last Convention. At length, however, the proceedings were brought to a close, in a regular and highly creditable course, with the fairness, the kindliness, and the gravity which became such a tribunal. The result was that the accused was unanimously acquitted by the assessors on some of the charges, and found guilty on others. He was sentenced to be suspended from the exercise of the ministerial office, until he should, in writing, profess his regret for having given occasion to the presentment, and promise conformity to the rules of the Church for the time to come. And having complied with this requisition within an hour after, I restored him to his ministerial standing, and gave him a letter dimissory to the bishop of Pennsylvania.

On Thursday evening, Nov. 17th, I preached in St. James' Church, Arlington; and confirmed five persons.

Friday, the 18th, I proceeded to Zion Church, Manchester, which is without a minister, and preached in the evening.

Saturday, the 19th Nov. I visited Trinity Church, Pawlet, where I preached in the Methodist house of worship to a respectable and attentive congregation. And in the afternoon of the same day, I proceeded to St. Paul's Church, Wells, preached, and baptized an infant. These parishes were then without a minister, but Wells is since happily supplied.

Sunday, the 20th Nov. I visited St. John's Church, Poultney, then under the pastoral care of the Rev. Moore Bingham, of the diocese of New York, and preached three times.

Monday, the 21st Nov. I proceeded to Tinmouth, in company with the Rev. Mr. Bingham, where I found a few zealous friends

of the Church. I preached, baptized one adult, and confirmed four persons. Since then, a society has been organized, with good prospects of success.

Tuesday, the 22d, I visited Trinity Church, Rutland, under the pastoral care of Rev. John A. Hicks, where I preached, and confirmed four persons.

Wednesday, the 23d, I proceeded to St. Stephen's Church Middlebury, under the pastoral care of the Rev. S. R. Crane, and preached, and the following day I preached again, and confirmed twelve persons. The next day, I returned home, and thus completed the Southern and Eastern tour of the diocese.

On the 24th Dec. being Christmas Eve, I preached at St. Paul's Church, Burlington, and confirmed twenty-four persons.

On Thursday, the 29th Dec. I commenced the visitation of the northern part of the diocese at Swanton Falls, where I preached in the evening. There are a few zealous friends of the Church in this place, but no organized society.

On Friday, the 30th Dec. I visited St. Luke's Church, Alburgh, where I was kindly assisted by the Rev. Mr. Townsend, of Canada, and preached.

On Sunday, the 1st of Jan. 1837, I visited St. John's Church, Highgate, where the Rev. John T. Sabine had been for a short time officiating. Here I was much gratified by the liberal and beautiful improvement of the building, and the additions to the other appendages of a well furnished edifice. A commodious vestry room, a new and appropriate chancel, a font of Italian marble, a set of superior books for the desk and altar, an excellent bell, and an arrangement to support a minister for the whole of his time, bore witness to the zeal of a few ardent lovers of the Church, in this interesting village. I preached twice, and confirmed four persons.

Monday, Jan. 2, I visited Calvary Church, Berkshire, then under the pastoral care of the Rev. Louis McDonald. On the following day I preached, and confirmed one person, and in the

afternoon, I proceeded to Union Church, Montgomery, and preached; and on Wednesday the 4th Jan. I visited Christ Church, Enosburgh, held services at the house of Doct. Eaton, and confirmed two persons. Both these parishes formed a part of Mr. McDonald's charge at that time.

Thursday, Jan. 5, I visited Grace Church, Sheldon, preached and administered the communion, the Rev. Mr. McDonald assisting. This important parish was then vacant, but has since invited Mr. McDonald to employ his whole time amongst them, in consequence of which he has removed from Berkshire, and Sheldon is again supplied by a resident pastor.

Friday, the 6th January, I visited Trinity Church, Fairfield, baptized an infant, and preached.

Saturday, the 7th Jan. I visited Christ Church, Fairfax, and preached in the school house at Buck hollow. Both these places are vacant.

Sunday, the 8th Jan. I visited Union Church, St. Albans, then under the pastoral care of Rev. Geo. Allen, preached twice, and confirmed 3 persons. And on the following day I returned home, having finished the tour of the Northern Churches.

On Saturday, the 25th of March, being Easter Even, I preached at St. Paul's Church, Burlington, and confirmed 7 persons, making, together with the other confirmations on Christmas eve, thirty one persons in the whole.

And on Sunday, April the 30th, I visited St. Paul's Church, Vergennes, under the ministerial care of Rev. A. T. Twing, where I preached twice, and confirmed 8 persons, making thirty one in that parish, since the last report.

My other official acts consisted in the examination, acceptance and ordination of the following persons, who were duly approved by the Standing Committee, viz :

August the 21st, 1836, being the 12th Sunday after Trinity, I ordained Messrs. Alvi Tabor Twing and David Stearns Devens, to the Holy Order of Deacons.

And Dec. the 4th, 1896, being the 2d Sunday in Advent, at St. Paul's Church Burlington, I ordained to the Holy Order of Deacons, Darwin Barton Mason, M. D. Of these additions to the list of our ministry, Rev. Mr. Twing received a call to officiate as the successor of Rev. Charles Fay, in St. Paul's Church Vergennes. Rev. Mr. Devens labored for a time with much acceptance at St. Peter's Church, Brattleboro, but has since left, though not regularly dismissed from the diocese: and Rev. Dr. Mason has taken charge of St. Paul's Church, Wells, which has prospered greatly under his care.

The other changes in our ministry are as follows, viz.

The Rev. Samuel R. Crane, being advised on account of ill health, to seek a southern climate, has taken letters dimissory to the diocese of Ohio. He has been succeeded in his parish at Middlebury, by the Rev. W. H. Hoit, who was regularly transferred to this diocese by bishop Griswold.

The Rev. Charles Cleveland, after having labored with missionary zeal for some months among the parishes at the north, asked letters dimissory to the diocese of Connecticut which were given accordingly.

The Rev. Jacob Pearson resigned his parish at Guilford, and received letters dimissory to the diocese of Massachusetts. He has been succeeded by the Rev. Luman Foote, who also officiates a part of his time in Brattleboro.

One new parish has been organized, namely, that of Timmouth, for the admission of which application has been made to this Convention.

The total number of persons confirmed since my last report, is 160.

Ministers dismissed to other dioceses,	4
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Ministers ordained,	3
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Ministers received from other dioceses,	1
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Present number belonging to the diocese,	18
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Mr. George F. Warner, admitted a candidate for Holy Orders,

at the session of last Convention, has been stricken from the list.

Messrs. William H. Bissell, Norman W. Camp, Oliver H. Staples, Josiah Obear, and Higby Throop, have been admitted as candidates, and are now pursuing their Theological course, making our present number of candidates nine altogether.*

Our list of vacant parishes is very large, consisting of the following.

Berkshire, Montgomery, and Enosburgh, vacated by the transfer of their late Rector, Rev. Louis M'Donald, to Grace Church, Sheldon; Fairfield and Fairfax.

St. Albans, whose Rector has found himself compelled to cease preaching for the present, on account of his health, to the deep regret of his attached congregation.

Poultney, vacated by the resignation of the Rev. Moore Bingham, who gives his whole time, as I understand, to his other parish, in the diocese of New York. The parish at Poultney, with its handsome and commodious Church, would form a very desirable place for a faithful minister.

Manchester, and Arlington, both important parishes, but the latter, namely, Arlington, being certainly one of the best locations for a zealous and devoted laborer; having a beautiful and costly Church, with all the appointments in the best style, and a people not to be surpassed in the substantial qualities which should make their pastor happy in their service.†

Of the above, seven have regular places of worship, and besides these, there are many other parishes, as Alburgh, Springfield, Tinmouth, Pawlet, and a still greater number of places where the Church is desired, and where there might be a most advantageous organization, if we had only laborers ready for the vineyard, of proper energy and reasonable attainments.

* Three other candidates have been added since the delivery of the above address.

† The parish of Arlington has been happily supplied by an engagement with the Rev. John Grigg, from the diocese of New York, who is now their rector.

The question then, brethren, presents itself, what course ought we to take, in order to do our duty towards supplying this grievous deficiency. The question is fundamental, for without ministers we cannot have a Church, and therefore we must procure them or we shall go back instead of progressing in our great and solemn work of establishing the Gospel in a sinful world.

To place this all important subject in its true light, it may be advisable to consider the principles which belong to the question, that we may not err on the one hand by shrinking from our proper task, nor on the other, by undertaking more than our true proportion.

If there be any thing self evident in the ethics of the Christian system I hold it to be this: that the Lord has allotted to every man a certain sphere of active exertion. That this sphere varies with the different circumstances and opportunities and capacities of men is incontrovertible, but there is nevertheless, a circle appropriate to each individual, within which he is bound to labor, and for the whole of which he is justly held responsible.

It follows necessarily from this first principle that no man is justifiable in casting his share of labor upon his fellow. Each must bear his own burden, and should do beyond this all that he can in helping his brother, but no one is tolerated who seeks to avoid his part in the general necessity, by laying his load upon the shoulders of his neighbor.

The same principle follows us in all the relations of life. Families have their appropriate labors, which, as families, must be performed by themselves. No father is justified in needlessly casting the support and government of his children upon another. No mother is pardonable in abandoning her offspring to the charity of any, whether stranger or friend. And in like manner, all the varieties of the social compact, whether in towns or states or nations, exhibit the same universal law, that each must provide for its own, fulfil its own tasks, perform its own labors,

and cast no part of its burdens upon any other portion of the great family of man.

All this is admitted to be obviously true, in the practical systems of earth, and forms the foundation of every human structure of law and government. But Christianity elevates the principle by connecting it with the unchangeable decree of the Supreme Lawgiver. Hence, the whole strain of Scripture promises a blessing to the spirit that loves to work according to the Divine will; so that the very assurance of the divine favor is made dependent on strenuous and unceasing exertion. Thus our great Redeemer spent his life on earth in doing good. And his distinguished Apostle records the principle, 'If any man will not work, neither let him eat;' and again, 'Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another, for every man shall bear his own burden.' (Gal. vi. 2. 4. 5.) And hence, while our personal salvation is clearly shewn to be by faith, and not by works, since no righteousness but that of Christ alone can abide the severity of the divine judgment, yet is all possible care taken to exclude the false commentary which the selfish indolence of the human heart would put upon the doctrine, for we see it emphatically declared that 'as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.'

Now all that the point before us requires, is the simple application of this universal principle to our ecclesiastical relations. By the very same rule that obliges every man to bear his own burden, every parish must bear its own burden, and every diocese is bound to do the same. For a diocese is a district of the Church, complete within itself as to all the objects for which the Church was instituted, and answering, in many respects, to the position of a state or commonwealth, in relation to the general confederacy which composes the political union of the nation. For each state has indeed consented to give up a certain portion

of its natural rights to the general government of the whole, for the sake of this union, while, nevertheless, it is as much bound to provide for the support, the safety, the education, and the internal welfare of its own citizens, as if it stood alone. And in like manner, each diocese of the Church has truly given up to the General Convention the control of certain subjects for the sake of ecclesiastical union; but it continues in every other respect, as perfectly responsible for all that belongs to its support, its education, its internal prosperity, as it was in the primitive day, and as it would be if it were the only diocese in the land.

Hence, it appears to my mind altogether incontrovertible, that excepting those things which the general constitution of the Church reserves to the whole body in General Convention, the diocese of Vermont stands bound on fundamental Christian principle to do every thing in its own circle of duty, which the ecclesiastical interest of its own district requires: that it must be willing in this respect, and in all properly appertaining to it, to bear its own burden, and neither seek to cast it upon the hands of others, nor idly stand waiting until they do its work.

That a portion of the work which every diocese requires, is the training up of its own candidates for the ministry, no man can deny. That this training demands some definite arrangement for their instruction and maintenance, is equally manifest. And that it devolves upon us in our Conventional and ecclesiastical capacity, to fulfil this part of our work, is the plain result, unless God in his wise Providence has deprived us of the power of performing the duty, or unless it has, by some means, devolved upon others to minister to our necessities.

Both branches of this hypothetical exception, may be safely denied. Of the first, I aver that no part of the Church has a more unquestionable power of bearing every burden which the law of Christ imposes on it. Vermont stands in no need of mendicity. Every town within its limits is able to pay its tribute to the State, to erect its dwellings, construct its bridges, re-

pair its roads, sustain its schools, and is it not equally able to support its Churches? Vermont is able to carry on its own internal improvements, endow its excellent colleges, and erect a capitol which has few equals, and perhaps no superior in any State in the union. And must it be a beggar when the interests of the Gospel are at stake? For one, brethren, I shall take leave to contend against the notion, that Christians may stand proudly erect in the blessings of their independence where their duties as citizens are concerned, but may crouch down in all the servility of helpless pauperism, when their duties as Churchmen are presented to them. It is indeed within the limits of imagination, that the towns of Vermont may be obliged to send elsewhere for money to pay their taxes, to support their schools and to buy their daily bread. And when that day comes, I shall admit that they may send elsewhere for the means to sustain their ministry; but not till then.

Thus much may suffice, as to the fact: but something more is due to a principle which I am sorry to see overlooked by many in our evil days. It is the great principle, brethren, that the Lord requires no duty at our hands, without at the same time, giving the means whereby it shall be performed. We are not asked to do impossibilities. Thus, the Church is told to pray the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his harvest. But if the Lord did not design to answer this prayer, would he command us to offer it? Again, when he does graciously send forth those laborers, he commands us to sustain them. But would he thus command, if he did not design to bestow upon us a sufficient ability? I confess, therefore, that I do not see the warrant for the modern plan which separates the duty of Christians from the abilities of Christians, which lays down the duty to be performed in one part of the Church, and tells us to go abroad and find means in another. As a general rule, I believe that whenever and wherever it is God's will that the work of his Church is to be done, he will, himself, provide,

then and there, for the means necessary in order to accomplish it. And if he does thus provide the means, and men refuse to use them, and seek to cast their burdens on others rather than thankfully bear their own; they ought to be frankly told that such a course, whether common or not in the age we live in, is neither without guilt nor without danger.

I trust that I shall not be misunderstood, as saying aught which is intended to apply to objects of *general* Christian benevolence, such as the missionary enterprise, where the *specific* purpose in view does not interest one portion of the Church more than another, and where, consequently, the means may properly be gathered from any or from all. Neither do I desire to detract one jot from the zeal and devotion of those excellent men, who have found themselves compelled by the apathy and coldness of the Church, to abandon every other care, and in the midst of toil and self denial, to establish the foundation of their diocesan institutions by the aid of foreign liberality. It is surely one thing to refuse the tribute of our sympathy and praise to the extraordinary labors and bright success of such men as these, and it is another thing to speak our sober judgment of the indifference and penuriousness at home, which seemed to render such labors and their attendant sacrifices necessary. Nor is there one sentence in the annals of the Church which deters me from declaring, that when Christians understand aright the true relation between the duty which God requires, and the ability which he has graciously bestowed upon them, they will feel much less disposed to rejoice in having successfully placed their burdens on other men's shoulders, than to hang their heads with shame over the covetous withholding of what is meet, which has been willing to make even the chief ministers of the sanctuary, exiles from their altars and their homes, rather than risk the spending and being spent in the service of heaven.

But other cases of exception to the general rule which I have stated may also be admitted; as when a particular portion of

the Church is overwhelmed by some extraordinary calamity, such as famine, persecution, war, or any other remarkable visitation, calling for the exercise of Christian sympathy and liberality from every other part of the great Redeemer's household. Such occasions as these make their own law, because they are above all common modes of regulated action. Of course, the general principle is untouched by these exceptions. And it assumes only the moderate ground, that the *systematic, uniform, constant* wants of the Church, can always be met by the means of those who are concerned. That a parish, needing a minister, will usually be able to support one, if they have the disposition—that a congregation needing a house of worship, will usually be able to erect it within themselves—that a diocese needing candidates to be trained for the service of the sanctuary, will have them raised up in the good Providence of God, and will be enabled to furnish them with all things necessary in their preparatory training—these things are the ordinary, regular necessities of every organized Church; and where they ought to exist, I hold it a truth to be safely assumed on principle that the means demanded cannot be wanting—that the deficiency must be in our imagination, rather than in fact.

The only remaining objection is presented by those who recognize in the General Theological Seminary the best possible provision for the education and support of candidates; and who therefore consider the diocese discharged from the duty and responsibility of making any other.

To this view of the subject it may be answered, that the General Theological Seminary does indeed afford a very admirable system for such as can avail themselves of its advantages; but that, by no imaginable process, can it be made to supply the ministerial wants of the whole Church, increased and extended as it has become beyond the most sanguine expectations of those whose zeal founded that institution. Hence, we have seen the dioceses of Virginia, Ohio, Massachusetts, Kentucky, and North

Carolina, successively acting upon the conviction that they must have, within their own borders, an establishment sufficient for the home supply of the ministry. And if this doctrine is adopted by those parts of the Church to which the tide of emigration carries such large accessions, how much more necessary is it for us, from whom the same tide of emigration takes so many away.

In farther support of this view of the subject, we have to say, that of the nine candidates now belonging to our diocese, eight are amongst ourselves, and only one at the General Seminary. And nothing can be more certain, as the general result at least, that if we could send all our young brethren to New York, and keep them there three years, until they had gone through the full course of study, but few could be expected to retain those feelings of attachment to their native State which would lead them to prefer a permanent location amongst us.

Hence, it appears to me a duty, which every year renders more and more imperative, to educate our ministry at home, on the spot, and amongst the people where they are to labour. Such was the principle established for the schools of the prophets in ancient Israel. Such was the practice of the primitive Church. And in favor of it, we have, further, the analogy presented by the solicitude, with which every State in our Union provides for its schools of literature. And the only point remaining is the question, how the work may be best effected ?

Since our last meeting together, it has pleased Providence to enable me to prepare a suitable building for the occupancy of as many pious young men, as the wants of our small diocese would probably demand. From fifteen to twenty might be there accommodated, boarded and lodged, under my own roof, for as small a sum, and with perhaps, as many *substantial* advantages, as they could reasonably ask, in order to prepare them for the work of the Gospel ministry. Of our present number of candidates, six are now living with me, and pursuing their

studies, and a seventh is expected soon. What we need is a permanent fund securing a moderate salary to an individual qualified to be a teacher of Theology, and such support for those students who need it, as might provide for the number above mentioned, all that they should reasonably require.

The idea which has presented itself to my mind as most feasible is this: That the board of agency should be requested to appropriate to the salary of the Theological professor, a sum not less than six hundred dollars per annum, out of the lands belonging to the diocese, and that the parishes be recommended to sustain one candidate, for each two parishes upon an average, wherever it is practicable, the professor and the candidates to be approved and appointed either by the Convention, or by the Ecclesiastical authority, and removeable by the same. I think that on such a plan, seven candidates might be allotted as our share in Burlington, and it is surely within bounds to suppose that the other thirty parishes could be induced to support from ten to thirteen more, so that the number contemplated would thus be provided for, with less expense and difficulty than the same work has cost in any other diocese whatever.

Brethren, it is my duty to suggest this important measure, and to point out a practicable mode of carrying it into effect, because I am fully persuaded that it is of the highest importance to those interests of the Church, which have this day called us together. If any better plan can be suggested it will give me pleasure to concur in it: if not, let me hope that something like the one proposed, will be adopted.

There is another subject which it may be well to present to your attention, and through the medium of our Journal, to that of the Church at large, inasmuch as I may perhaps bring it forward at the next General Convention, which will meet before we shall again assemble together. It is the serious question of the qualifications and character of the third order in the ministry—the Deacon of our Church, which has become in our modern

days a very different office from that which our doctrine contemplates—an office, in sober truth, not precisely in accordance with the practice of the primitive Church, nor with our own excellent form of ordination.

In the original inception of this office, it is clear that it was designed to be a branch of the ministry, because it was instituted to bear a part of the apostolic burden. The number of the disciples had increased until the care of distributing to the poor widows of the flock was in part neglected, and a murmuring arose in consequence. The apostles then directed seven men to be chosen, whom they should appoint over this business, for it is not meet, said they, 'that we should leave the word of God and serve tables,' plainly shewing, that it had been considered a part of their duty previously, but that now the labor had so much increased that a proper attention to it was inconsistent with the higher and more imperative portion of their sacred duty, prayer and the ministry of the word,

Seven men are accordingly chosen, the apostles ordain them by the laying on of hands, and they are presently found preaching and baptizing. From that time, the Church seems to have been supplied with this, as a distinct, standing order. The very number seven was continued in the Church of Rome, as we learn from the letter of Cornelius the bishop of Rome, to Cyprian, bishop of Carthage, about the middle of the third century. And the ancient writers frequently speak of them as preserving order among the congregation in time of public prayer, as standing near the presbyters, as making proclamations in the Church, as having the care of the poor, and in other ways assisting the higher ministry, the presbyters and bishops, in their several vocations.

Pursuing faithfully the track of the primitive Church, our own ordination service considers the deacon as an assistant to the Priest, and no more, except on extraordinary emergencies, 'It appertaineth to the office of a Deacon, in the Church where he shall be appointed to serve,' saith the Bishop in the questions

which the ordinal obliges him to address to the candidates, 'to assist the Priest in Divine Service, and specially when he ministereth the Holy Communion, and to help him in the distribution thereof; and to read the Holy Scriptures and Homilies in the Church, and to instruct the youth in the catechism, and in the absence of the Priest to baptize infants; and to preach if he be admitted thereto by the Bishop. And furthermore it is his office, where provision is so made, to search for the sick, poor, and impotent people of the Parish, to intimate their estates, names, and places where they dwell, unto the Curate, that by his exhortation they may be relieved with the alms of the parishoners, or others: Will you do this gladly and willingly?' And the candidate answers, 'I will so do, by the help of God.' But when and where do we find the deacon occupied according to this primitive view of his office? Nowhere, that I have seen, within the bounds of our communion. Instead of this, our deacons are always considered qualified to preach; without exception. They are sent forth as missionaries to organize and take charge of congregations. Their practical duties are regarded much as if they were presbyters, excepting only that they have not the authority to administer the Eucharist. And indeed the diaconate is looked upon, not as a standing order in the Church, appointed to assist the priest, but as a preparatory grade leading in all cases to the priesthood. Hence, no one now becomes a deacon unless he intends to be a priest, and the theological and literary qualifications which our Canon lays down as necessary for assuming this first grade in the ministry, are so perfectly identified with those which the grade of priesthood demands, that the examination for the priest's office is little more amongst us than a matter of form.

Now it has long appeared to my mind, that by the course of modern practice the substantial benefits of this third order of the apostolic ministry are almost lost to us, to the great injury of the Church, and of the best interests of the Gospel. The

catechising of youth, and especially the care of the poor, are cast upon the priest, and therefore are seldom attended to as they should be. The training up the children of the Church in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and the preaching the Gospel to the poor, and the judicious and kindly supply of their bodily necessities, to which, in primitive times, the order of deacons was devoted, and which is still their duty by the very language of our ancient ordinal, are no longer, as they well deserve to be, in the front rank of the ecclesiastical constitution. Nor will they ever, I fear, be restored to their true and original estimation, until the Church adopts the primitive plan which attaches deacons *together with priests*, to the service of our congregations.

There are some objections, however, to this suggestion, which require to be noted. First, it might be thought impracticable, because it would seem to demand double or triple the sum to support the ministry of each Church. To this the answer is, that the duties of the diaconate might be discharged by persons who derive their support from schools, or agriculture, or other avocations which are now frequently performed by the priesthood themselves. In very large and wealthy city Churches, there would be no difficulty in supporting them without such aid, and generally through the country parishes, it would be easy to find some who would not need any salary whatever. At all events, this objection only regards the extent to which the plan could be applied. And this is a matter with which the Church has no concern, because it depends on the means which the Lord may bestow upon our people, and the disposition which they may manifest to use them.

In the second place it may be said, that the deficiency of laborers is now so great, that a plan requiring double the number would be plainly impracticable. The answer is, that this difficulty is partly created by ourselves, in placing the literary and theological qualifications for the deacon, as high as those which we demand for the priest. The priesthood is an office so much

above the diaconate, that the qualifications necessary ought to be higher in proportion. The deacon must indeed be a man of respectable judgment, decided piety, and good character. In the words of Scripture, he should be 'full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom;' but I have never been able to discover the necessity for his possessing all the literary and theological requisites which our Canon lays down. Hence I should think that our present extensive qualifications should be reserved for the priesthood, and there *strictly* and *universally* insisted on. But for the diaconate I should recommend a dispensing with any thing literary beyond a good English education. With this alteration, there would be candidates enough among persons of more age, more experience, and more established character, than are now of necessity admitted amongst the students of theology, so that what might be lost in classical literature would be more than supplied by qualities of far greater importance in the work of their ministry.

But this itself introduces another objection, derived from the fear that the ministry would be degraded in its general aspect by admitting into the first degree persons of inferior literary endowments. I answer, that this could never happen, so long as full qualifications were insisted upon *without any exception* for the office of *the priest*. Nay, so far from it, that a permanent class of the ministry, occupying in each parish a place between the people and the priest, would tend to increase the general respect for the priestly office, and render its exercise much more effective and beneficial.

The last objection is, that our deacons, on the plan proposed, would resemble the Congregational deacon, and not be regarded as ministers at all. To which I reply, that their ministerial character does not depend on their literary qualifications, but upon their ordination for the performance of certain ministerial functions. Before the eyes of the congregation the distinction would be as visible as it is now, nor would it be possible to confound such different offices together.

The result of such a recurrence to primitive principle would, as it seems to me, give our priesthood a great increase of efficiency, by furnishing them with helpers, co-workers, and occasional substitutes during their necessary absence. To weak congregations, such a deacon would be able to do a service which no lay reading can supply, and for catechizing and the care of the poor, he would do what is now too often unavoidably neglected. Indeed I have long thought that the prevailing prejudice against our Church, derived from the idea that it is so well adapted to the wants of the poor as the other denominations, results chiefly from our having lost the peculiar labors of the deacon's office; and I should, therefore, hope for the effects, if, under God, the primitive character of that office were found as perfectly in our practice as it is in our ordinal.

It would occupy too much time to enter fully into all the details of this question. I shall, therefore, only add, that the change contemplated is not original with me, but was suggested to my mind by the wisdom of the lamented bishop White. Doubtless many of my brethren among the Clergy are familiar with various opinions upon the subject, and would at once recognize the propriety of the proposed change.

The remaining topic which I wish to present to this Convention, is one which stands in the closest connexion not only with the prosperity of our parishes, but with the whole work of the gospel ministry. It is not a topic on which we can act in the form of law, or by any enactment of this body. It is rather the subject of affectionate exhortation and advice, to my respected brethren of the laity. I allude to the pecuniary provision made by our several congregations for the maintenance and support of the clergy. It is notorious that for a considerable time past the necessities of life have risen in price, so as to render the former salaries of ministers altogether insufficient. All other labor has increased its measure of reward, while the compensation of ministers remains the same. Nor can we say with truth, that

the present salaries, low and inadequate as they frequently are, have always been paid with the requisite punctuality. The consequence of this state of things must be highly injurious, if not absolutely fatal to the religious interests of the Church in our diocese. Our ministers, in general—to their praise be it spoken—have no inclination to abandon their flocks, or change their ecclesiastical location. So far from this is the fact, that I am personally acquainted with cases in which they have refused to leave, although a much better prospect of support was held out to them. But still, necessity will constrain them, in duty to their families, to go where they can obtain a competent living; and if we do not afford it to them, they must repair to those portions of the Church that will. In all such cases, however, the Churches and the ministry are but too likely to suffer. Every needless change of the parish minister, is not only an evil to him, but also to the people. The relation between the pastor and the flock is one which requires much time to become what it should be. The minister who has long been settled in the same place obtains an affectionate and friendly kind of influence, which in our day, especially, gives a peculiar value to his presence and his labors. The rising generation gather round him; the infants whom he has baptized, the youth whom he has presented for confirmation, become in due season the heads of families in their turn, and regard him with a filial sort of reverence, which they cannot transfer to any other minister, and which he cannot find in any other flock. The very streets of his dwelling place seem to sympathize in the sentiment, and the regard experienced for him by his own peculiar charge, diffuses itself more or less, in due season, through the whole community. Surely my brethren, that must be a miserable sort of economy, which, by forcing our ministry from place to place in search of maintenance, would prevent the formation of such a tie, or break it when it is formed. And besides, the very troubles and petty vexations of clergymen, whose narrow incomes involve them in debt, depress their spirits, weigh down

their zeal, and fill them with such distressing doubts of their acceptableness, as to paralyze their strength and destroy their energy in their master's service. Under such disadvantageous circumstances they can seldom discharge their duties as they would; and thus it is that congregations often complain of the diminished usefulness of their minister, when their own misplaced parsimony, or their want of punctuality is alone to blame.

I am sure you will not understand me as saying, that *all* our ministers require from their people is to be well and punctually paid. To be truly successful, the flock must perform in behalf of their pastor, a much higher and more important duty. They must attend with seriousness and devotion on his services. They must listen with earnest interest to his instructions. And as he is solemnly bound to bear them in his heart in all his supplications before the mercy seat, so they must never forget to pray for him, when they approach the throne of grace. No minister of God can do his work successfully, if any of these conditions be neglected by his people. Even of Christ Jesus himself, the great High Priest of our profession, it is recorded that he could do no mighty work where the people were unfaithful. (Mark, vi. 5, 6.) Much less can his poor unworthy followers do any ministerial work, where the same essential principle of all religious effort is wanting.

But while all this is most true, the obligation to which I have particularly referred is true likewise. Those who serve at the altar must live by the altar. It will not do to say to our ministers 'Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled,' while we 'give them not those things that are needful for the body.' (Ja. ii. 16.) And therefore, beloved brethren of the laity, let me affectionately urge upon you the necessity, the duty, and the privilege, of forming the opinions and the example of the various congregations of our diocese on such a model, that no faithful laborer in the Lord's vineyard who is called to the ministerial work with-

in our borders, shall ever have cause to charge us with forgetting his personal comfort, or neglecting his temporal support.

And now, brethren, I commend your deliberations to the guidance and direction of our merciful Redeemer ; imploring him to grant us such wisdom and grace, that all our doings may be accepted in his sight, and prospered by his blessing.

On motion of the Rev. C. Chase,

Resolved, That it be and hereby is made the duty of all ministers having charge of Churches in this Diocese to read to their respective congregations on some occasion of Public Worship the Address which has this day been delivered by the Rt. Rev. Bishop to this Convention ; and in cases of Churches without rectors, it is hereby made the duty of the Wardens or Lay-Readers of said Churches to cause that the same be read as aforesaid.

On motion of the Rev. J. A. Hicks,

Resolved, That a Committee of two Clergymen and two Laymen be appointed on so much of the Bishop's Address as relates to the Education of Candidates for the ministry: Whereupon the Rev. Messrs. John A. Hicks and James Sabine, and Messrs. R. G. Cole and A. Fleming were appointed as the Committee.

On motion of the Rev. George Allen,

Resolved, That a Committee of two Clergymen and two Laymen be appointed on that part of the Bishop's Address which relates to the Order of Deacons : Whereupon the Rev. Messrs. George Allen and A. T. Twing, and Messrs. G. Cleveland and Orange Ferris were appointed as this Committee.

On motion of the Rev. George Allen,

Resolved, That the following form of Certificates for Lay-Delegates is hereby recommended to the Parishes, and it shall always be appended to the printed Journal of each Convention.

I hereby certify, that at a meeting of the Vestry of ———

Church in ———, holden, as the Canon directs, on Easter Monday, in the year of our Lord ———, A. B. and C. D. members of the Vestry, were duly elected Delegates to represent the said Parish in the ensuing Convention of the Diocese.

M. N. Secretary of Vestry.

On motion of the Rev. S. A. Crane,

Resolved, That a Committee of two Clergymen and three Laymen be appointed to consider and report upon the financial affairs of the Convention :—Whereupon the Rev. Messrs. S. A. Crane, and Carlton Chase; and Messrs. J. C. Thrall, T. F. Strong, and Gardner G. Smith were appointed a *Financial Committee*:

On motion of the Rev. George Allen;

A Committee was appointed to nominate Candidates for the Standing Committee, Delegates to the next General Convention; and a Preacher and his substitute for the next Diocesan Convention. The Rev. Darius Barker, and Messrs. Nahum Parker and Orange Ferris were appointed as this Committee.

On motion of the Rev. James Sabine,

The reports of the Lay-Delegates relative to the temporal condition of their respective Parishes as required by the 7th Article of the Constitution were called for; and, being laid before the Convention and the Bishop, were referred to the Financial Committee.

On motion of the Rev. Carlton Chase;

Resolved, That a Committee of two be appointed to enquire into the expediency of taking measures in this Convention for collecting, arranging, and preserving valuable documents and traditions relating to the history of the Church in this Diocese: Whereupon the Rev. Messrs. Chase and McDonald were appointed to be this Committee.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Chase,

The Convention adjourned to meet again in this place immediately after Divine Service this evening.

St. Paul's Church, 9 o'clock, P. M.

Convention met according to adjournment:

The Committee on nominations made the following report, viz. the Rev. Messrs. Carlton Chase, S. A. Crane, John A. Hicks, George Allen, and Charles Fay to be the Standing Committee of the Diocese for the year ensuing—the Rev. Messrs. Carlton Chase, S. A. Crane, John A. Hicks, and George Allen, to be the Clerical ;—and Messrs. G. Cleveland, E. R. Campbell, Andrew Thompson, and Artemas Robbins to be the Lay-Delegates from this Diocese to the next General Convention ;—and the Rev. Carlton Chase to be the Preacher before the next Convention of this Diocese, with the Rev. Charles Fay to be his Substitute.

This report was accepted ; and the votes of the Convention being given in as the 15th Canon directs, the Rev. Messrs. Carlton Chase, S. A. Crane, John A. Hicks, George Allen, and Charles Fay were unanimously chosen to be the Standing Committee for the ensuing year ;—the Rev. Messrs. Carlton Chase, S. A. Crane, John A. Hicks, and George Allen were chosen to be the Clerical ; and Messrs. George Cleveland, E. R. Campbell, Andrew Thompson, and Artemas Robbins were chosen to be the Lay-Delegates from this Diocese to the next General Convention ; and the Rev. Carlton Chase was elected to be the Preacher before the next Diocesan Convention, with the Rev. Charles Fay to be his Substitute.

On motion of the Rev. George Allen,

Resolved, That the Bishop with the consent of any two members of the Standing Committee shall have power to fill such vacancies as may occur in the Delegation to the next General Convention.

On motion of the Rev. John A. Hicks,

The votes of the Convention were given in for Treasurer, when the Rev. S. A. Crane was unanimously chosen.

On motion of the Rev. C. Chase,

The Convention adjourned to meet in the same place at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

St. Paul's Church, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment; and the Morning Prayers were read by the Rev. John T. Sabine.

The Treasurer made the following Report, which was read and accepted.

The Rev. S. A. Crane, Treasurer, in account with the Convention of the Diocese of Vermont.

Dr. to Balance in the Treasury at the adjournment of last Convention.	\$97,24
Cr. By Cash paid for printing Journal of 1836, Constitution and Canons.	55,00
By Quota of this Convention to the Gen. Con. as required by Can. of 1835,	17,00
By Cash for copying Journals, Constitution, and Canons.	10,00
By Cash paid for Postage.	2,74—84,74

Balance in the Treasury \$12,50

The Rev. Mr. Chase from the Committee to whom was referred the Resolution concerning the collection, and preservation of facts and materials connected with the history of the Church in this state, made *Report* as follows:

That they feel much impressed with the importance of the subject submitted to them, and think it in a high degree expedient that immediate measures be taken under the direction and sanction of this Convention to rescue from loss and oblivion facts, documents, and traditions pertaining to the organization and progress of the Churches of the Protestant Episcopal faith and discipline in this State. There probably are some aged men of our Communion from whose memories might be drawn by seasonable application much interesting and valuable matter relating to our earlier history. Time is rapidly bearing these venerable men along

to another world where we can no longer consult them concerning the affairs of this. It is believed also, that there may now be found many private papers and ephemeral publications that are worthy of careful collection and preservation, but which it may be supposed, will soon be beyond the reach of historical research ; and that a call authorized by this Convention will draw them forth and place them in a condition to be of great interest and value to the future Church. The Committee therefore recommend the following resolutions.

1. *Resolved*, That it is expedient that measures be taken for collecting, arranging, and preserving such valuable documents and traditions as may be found in relation to the history of the Church in this State.

2. *Resolved*, That for the purpose of carrying into effect the foregoing resolution, there shall be appointed by the Bishop some suitable person to act, according to his discretion, as collector and conservator of historical materials ; and that all persons, societies, and congregations having any such materials, be and hereby are requested to allow the collector so appointed such aid and facilities as the accomplishment of the object may require,

The foregoing report was read and accepted, and the resolutions adopted ; and the Rev. Mr. Chase was appointed to carry into effect the purposes contemplated in the resolutions.

The Committee to whom was referred that part of the Bishop's Address which relates to the Order of Deacons, made the following report :

Your committee have consulted upon this subject, and found their first impressions unfavorable to the measure proposed ; but being unwilling to submit to the Convention views so hastily formed, and which may be modified by proper examination and reflection, they beg leave to sit again, and to report to the next Convention.

For the Committee,

GEO. ALLEN, *Chairman*.

The foregoing report was accepted, and leave granted accordingly.

On motion of the Rev. C. Chase the parochial Reports were read, and laid on the Secretary's table to be inserted in the Journal.

Calvary Church, East Berkshire.

The present number of Communicants is about 60. 1 added, 5 baptisms, 1 death.—The Rev. Louis McDonald removed from this Parish last February; and since that time the Church has been without a Rector. The services of the Church are regularly read to a respectable assembly each Lord's day.—There is also a Sunday School consisting of about fifty scholars.

DOLPHUS PAUL, *Clerk.*

Grace Church, Sheldon.

The Rev. Louis McDonald, Rector.

Baptisms, 14—Funerals 2—Marriages 2—The present Rector removed from Berkshire to this parish in the latter part of January. The services of the Church have been well attended. He has also preached at five o'clock on Sunday, in a School-house in Fairfield, two thirds of the time.—At the request of some of the people our service was holden in the Church on Sunday last.

Upon all these occasions the congregation was attentive, and upon most of them large.

St. John's Church, Highgate.

The Rev. John T. Sabine, Rector.

Baptisms 9—(Adults 3, Infants 6.)—Confirmed 4—Communicants about 30—Marriages 3—Funerals 2.

Union Church, St. Albans.

Baptisms 6—Confirmations 3—Marriages 4—Burials 3.

The undersigned, having become inadequate to the labor of regular public speaking, resigned his rectorship on the first of August last. The parish is as yet vacant, but it is earnestly hoped that it may be early supplied by a pastor worthy of the people.

GEO. ALLEN.

Christ's Church, Fairfax.

Alfred Wheeler, Lyman Hawley, Wardens.

Communicants 15, Sunday Scholars, 20. This Church has had no ministerial labors for the last eleven Months, but has maintained the worship of the Sanctuary in the use of our Liturgy by Lay-reading.

St. Paul's Church, Burlington.

The Rt. Rev. J. H. Hopkins D. D. Rector.

Baptisms, 25 Infants, 4 Adults.—8 Funerals—4 Marriages—31 Confirmed. Added to the Communion 34: but owing to removals and death the actual number does not equal that formerly reported. The general prosperity of the Congregation is as great as could be expected considering the defective ministrations of their present pastor.

Trinity Church, Shelburne.

The Rev. S. A. Crane, Rector.

Since the first of last November the Rector has preached every Sunday in this Parish. The congregation is small, though rather increasing.

Baptisms, 4 infants,—Funerals 4. Confirmed 7.

St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.

The Rev. A. T. Twing, Rector.

Since the report laid before the last Convention, there have been—Baptisms, 38 (Adults 10, Children 28.) Confirmations,

32. Marriages, 4. Funerals, 4. Communicants added, 33. Present number of Communicants, about 60.

The Sunday school, in respect to its numbers, has been nearly doubled within the year, and the apparent interest of Teachers and pupils in this cause, has increased, it is believed, in about the same proportion.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.

The Rev. William Henry Hoit, Rector.

The present rector of this parish has been connected with it only since the month of April last. Previous to that time, and since the date of the last parochial report, the number of Baptisms recorded is 4. Confirmations, 12. Marriages, 3.

Since April, there have been 3 Burials. Present number of Communicants, 100.

Trinity Church, Rutland.

The Rev. John A. Hicks, Rector.

Present number of Communicants, 34. Marriages, 9. Baptisms, 9. (Adults, 1. Infants, 8.) Funerals 8.

Contributions to the board of Missions,	\$ 90,00
Money received for other charitable objects,	100,00

St. Stephen's Church, Tinmouth.

The Rev. D. B. Mason, Minister.

This society was recently organized, and has had the services of a non-resident Minister, to conduct public worship, every other Sunday, since January last. Baptisms, 9. (Infants, 6. Adults, 3.) Marriages, 1. Communicants, 12.

Several persons are waiting confirmation.

St. Paul's Church, Wells.

The Rev. D. B. Mason, Minister.

Baptisms, 5. (Infants, 4. Adults, 1.) Burials, 4. Communicants, 23.

Several persons are waiting Confirmation.

St. John's Church, Poulney.

Communicants, 37. Baptisms, 4. (Infants, 3. Adults, 1.) Funerals, 2. Marriages, 1. The number of Communicants has considerably declined during the past year.

This is partly owing to service having been suspended since last Easter. At that time the united parishes of Hampton, N. Y., and this parish, were advised by their minister to separate, that each might provide for, and enjoy the entire services of a minister.

The vestry of this parish have accordingly made some effort to obtain a clergyman, but have hitherto been unsuccessful.

The Rev. Herman Hooker, an invalid Clergyman, resident in the parish, has officiated a few sundays last past.

The vestry contemplate the engagement of a Clergyman as soon as practicable.

MOORE BINGHAM.

Zion Church, Manchester.

Baptisms, 9 (Adults, 1. Infants, 8.) Communicants, 42. The wardens would report, that though during the past year they have been destitute of regular preaching, they have been blessed with occasional services, which have resulted in creating an increased interest in the Church, and a determination if possible, to procure a pastor. And should the Church succeed in the undertaking, it is believed there is a fair prospect of its increasing in strength and numbers.

Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls.

Rev. Carlton Chase, Rector.

Baptisms, 24. (Adults, 7. Children, 17.) Confirmations 10. Marriages, 2. Deaths, 8. Communicants, 80. Parish Library, upwards of 300 vols.

The pastor of this Church thinks he ought to remark, that of the Baptisms above-mentioned, two adults and three children received the ordinance at Proctorsville, where he spent a Sun-

day and preached, in the month of September last, and where, he would take the opportunity to add, our Church has a number of excellent friends.

Respecting the state and progress of Immanuel Church, the Rector has nothing to say, except to acknowledge with gratitude the continuance of the divine favor. He cannot deny himself the satisfaction of bearing this public testimony to that merciful goodness, which has so long been manifested, in the temporal, and above all, the spiritual prosperity of this Church.

St. Paul's Church, Windsor.

The prospects of this Church are much as they were last year. Baptisms, 9. (Adults, 2. Infants, 7.) Confirmations, 3. Communicants, about 50. Marriages, 4. Funerals, 2.

Union Church, Springfield.

The Rev. Luman Foote, Rector.

I resigned my connection with this parish the first of December last. Since the last Convention 6 persons have been confirmed, 2 Adults baptized, and 4 are waiting confirmation. It is deeply to be regretted that the diocese is not able to send a Missionary to this infant Parish. It would greatly rejoice the hearts of the devoted little band who are attached to our Communion there, and no exertion on their part would be wanting to ensure success to his labour.

Christ Church, Guilford.

Rev. Luman Foote, Rector.

The Rev. Mr. Pearson resigned his connection with this parish in August 1836. I succeeded him the January following and preached here with occasional services in the centre of the town till the 6th of July last. Since which period I have held one service at this place and another at Brattleboro' every Sunday. The number of Communicants (including those residing at Brat-

tleboro') is 55,—Baptisms 8,—Adults 2,—Children 6,—Marriages 2,—Deaths 3.

On Motion of the Rev. George Allen,
St. Peter's Church, Brattleborough, was received into this Convention.

The committee to whom was referred so much of the Address of the Bishop as relates to Theological Education—reported as follows :

Your Committee fully coincide with the sentiments of the Address, as they relate to the importance of adequate provision by the Diocèse, for the education of Candidates for Holy Orders ; but they are not sufficiently in possession of the views and wishes of the Bishop on the subject, to propose any specific plan, for the accomplishment of the object. It appears to the committee, that the first step to be taken by the Convention, is to declare by vote, whether it will take any measures for Theological Education. They, therefore, recommend to the Convention, the adoption of the following resolutions.

Resolved, That it is expedient that the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the Diocese of Vermont, should take immediate measures for the Theological education of candidates for its ministry.

2d. *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed, who, after consultation with the Bishop, shall report a plan, for carrying the foregoing resolution into effect.

For the committee,

James Sabine, *Chairman*.

The foregoing *Report* was accepted, and the accompanying resolutions were separately adopted : Whereupon, the Rev. J. A. Hicks and James Sabine, and Messrs. George Cleveland and Timothy F. Strong, were appointed a committee to confer with the Bishop, and to report a plan for carrying into effect the object of the first of the preceding resolutions.

The Financial committee made report as follows :—

Your Committee find claims upon the Treasury of the Convention, arising from the following sources : viz.

1st. The printing of the Journal of 1836, and the Constitution and Canons passed at that Convention, \$ 120,81

2d. Expenses growing out of the Presentment and Trial of the Rev. William S Perkins. 78,50

3d. The expenses of the present year, which they estimate as follows :—

The Quota of this Diocese to the General Convention, \$ 10,00

Printing Journal of this Convention, 40,00

Other incidental expenses, 12,00— 62,00

4th. They recommend an allowance of 25 dollars, to each clerical Delegate from this Diocese, who shall attend the next General Convention. 100,00

\$ 361,31

To meet these claims your committee find,

Cash paid on account of printing &c. \$ 55,00

Cash in the Treasury, 12,50— 67,50

Leaving to be provided for, \$ 293,81

As the best mode of supplying this deficiency, and in accordance with the 7th Article of the Constitution, your Committee recommend an assessment on the several parishes, as follows : viz.

Calvary Church, Berkshire,	\$ 12,00
Christ Church, Enosburgh,	4,00
Union Church, Montgomery,	8,00
St. John's Church, Highgate,	20,00
Union Church, St. Albans,	20,00
Grace Church, Sheldon,	10,00
Trinity Church, Fairfield,	6,00

Christ Church, Fairfax,	6,00
St. Paul's Church, Burlington,	30,00
Trinity Church, Shelburn,	10,00
St. Paul's Church, Vergennes,	20,00
St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,	20,00
Trinity Church, Rutland,	20,00
St. John's Church, Poultney,	4,00
St. Stephen's Church, Tinmouth,	3,00
St. Paul's Church, Wells,	5,00
Zion Church, Manchester,	10,00
St. James' Church, Arlington,	20,00
St. Peter's Church, Bennington,	5,00
Christ Church, Guilford,	10,00
Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls,	20,00
St. Peter's Church, Brattleborough,	6,00
St. Paul's Church, Windsor,	20,00
St. James Church, Woodstock,	20,00
Christ Church, Bethel,	8,00
St. Paul's Church, Royalton,	3,00
Grace Church, Randolph,	10,00
	<hr/>
	\$330,00

The foregoing Report and Assessment are respectfully submitted and recommended by your Committee.

S. A. Crane, *Chairman*.

The Report of the Financial Committee was accepted; and the Assessment recommended, was adopted by a vote of the Lay-Delegates, in conformity with the 7th Article of the Constitution. The committee appointed to confer with the Bishop respecting the provision to be made for Theological Education in the Diocese, made the following Report.

Your Committee, as the result of their conference with the Bishop, recommend the following Resolutions.

1st. *Resolved*, That for the ensuing year it is expedient for the Convention to accept the use of such portion of the Bishop's edifice, for the accommodation of Theological Students, as he can spare for the purpose, and that a Theological Professor be appointed with a salary of \$600 a year, who shall be entrusted with the whole care of instruction, subject to such statutes as may hereafter be set forth and approved by this Convention.

2d. *Resolved*, That the Parishes shall be assessed for the above sum of \$600; and that the Financial Committee is hereby directed to make and report to this Convention an apportionment of the aforesaid sum upon the several Parishes of the Diocese; and that this Convention considers itself pledged for the prompt and faithful payment of the same.

The foregoing Report was accepted, and the Resolutions were separately adopted: *Whereupon*, the Rev. George Allen was unanimously appointed to fill the Theological Professorship, created by the adoption of the first of the preceding Resolutions.

In conformity with the resolution offered by the Rev Mr. Chase, the Bishop gave the following statement of his views as to the propriety and obligatory character of the proceedings of the last General Convention, relative to the manner of reading the General Confession in the morning and evening service; and the same was ordered to be published in the Journal.

In compliance with the request of the Convention, I regret that I must give a deliberate opinion at variance with that of the last General Convention upon the subject of the mode of repeating the general confession, in the daily morning and evening prayer; being clear in my judgment, that the words of the Rubric, and the universal practice of the Church of England at the time we became an independent ecclesiastical body, and the practice of the whole American Church up to the meeting of the last General Convention, together with the practice used in that very assembly, during their session, are all directly opposed to the course which many of the dioceses have since adopted.

The following, briefly, are the views which I have embraced upon the question. The Rubric directs the general confession to be said by the people, *after* the minister, and it directs the Lord's Prayer to be said *with* him. Now these words are as well settled in their general meaning as any in the English tongue, and cannot with propriety be supposed to mean the same thing. In the construction of laws, the only circumstances under which it is allowed to depart from the usual and settled meaning of words, are such as arise from a species of necessity, as when the common meaning would give a sense plainly repugnant to the general intention of the law. But no such allowance can be claimed in the present case. The liturgy is constructed on the plan of a wise and beautiful variety. Sometimes the people follow the minister in the very same words, as in many parts of the litany ; sometimes they accompany him in a joint act of worship, sometimes they respond to him in alternate verses ; all these modes are to be found in the ancient liturgies, all are retained in our book of prayer, which owes its excellence to its faithful adherence to primitive practice ; and hence the natural construction of the word *after*, instead of ~~being~~ repugnant to other parts of the service, is in reality in accordance with its general design. That its meaning cannot then be fairly stated, otherwise than is here allowed, seems to my mind plain. The language of the service is imperative : Say this *after* the minister, and say the other *with* him. If I should address such words to an ordinary mind, could I be supposed to intend no difference ? Surely not. Were I, in going a journey, to say to my companion : At this part of the road, you are to walk *after* me, and at the other part you are to walk *with* me, I should be surprised to be told that by both parts of the direction I meant the same thing.

So far then as the language of the Rubric is concerned the case seems to my mind perfectly clear. But if it were doubtful, it is, secondly, an established rule, that the construction of law in

doubtful cases is to be taken from practice, and so much respect is paid to this principle, that the force of practice will sometimes be allowed to fix a construction contrary to the usual meaning of the words. But here the practice universally concurred with the ordinary import of the language, nor is there the slightest warrant that I know of for the assumption of the resolution as passed by the House of Clerical and Lay-Delegates, (see Journal of the Gen. Con. p. 24.) where the settled mode is called a practice *recently found in some of the Churches*.

On this point of the practice I cannot be mistaken in appealing to the knowledge of this Convention, and of the Church at large, in support of the assertion, that the method recommended by the committee of Bishops at the General Convention, is itself an innovation. Hence, in order to sanction its adoption, a rubric of the prayer book (which is law to the Church) must be altered, first, in the face of the language, and secondly, in the face of the universal practice which had fixed,—if there could have been any doubt—the true legal construction.

In the third place, if it were required, I think I could shew that the alteration is neither expedient in itself, nor acceptable to the majority of sound Churchmen. But I put this consideration altogether aside because I consider it unnecessary. The conclusive argument, in my mind, is, that the General Constitution of the Church expressly refuses to give the power to one General Convention to make any alteration whatever in the book of Common Prayer. To do this requires the act of *two* Conventions. And experience has proved, on more than one occasion, the wisdom of this provision. But surely, what that body has not the power to do *directly*, it cannot have the power to do *indirectly*, by new constructions of old and settled words. For it is manifest that the design of the Constitution was to prevent the alteration of any thing in our doctrine and worship, by hasty and immature legislation. But if old words may receive new meanings, thereby altering our mode of worship as effectually

as if the words themselves were actually changed, I conceive that the Constitution is as completely violated in the spirit, if not in the letter ; and, therefore, I should have held a positive injunction of the General Convention to such effect as merely void, being against the Constitution, had they indeed set forth one.

And this brings me, fourthly, to the satisfactory result, that in fact the General Convention have done nothing in the matter which calls on us to alter the old and established rule. The house of Clerical and Lay-Delegates did indeed express their '*judgment*,' (see p. 24 of Journal) in the *preamble* of a resolution ; forgetting, I presume, that it was beginning at the wrong end, in a question concerning the liturgy, for them to express their judgment first, and afterwards to ask the House of Bishops for concurrence. But the *resolution itself* went no farther than respectfully to request the attention of the House of Bishops to the matter, '*in order that should they concur in the opinion expressed, such measures may be taken as will maintain uniformity of practice in this behalf, in conformity to ancient usage.*' In answer to this application, the House of Bishops (see p. 102.) expressed the '*opinion* that a regard to uniformity with what is practised in other parts of the liturgy, and also to the avoiding of a needless addition to the length of the service, and to its most decent performance, requires, that in repeating the General Confession in the morning and evening prayer, the people should unite with the minister in saying it after him, in the same manner as is usually practised in saying the Creed, the Lord's prayer, and the confession in the communion service.' But no '*measures were taken*,' as contemplated by the resolution of the other house, in consequence of this opinion. Each house expressed its sentiment in its own way ; the house of Bishops, however, carefully abstaining from any concurrence in the strange idea, that the mode recommended was the *ancient usage* of the Church. Seeing, therefore, that a change of the mode seemed expedient in the view

of both Houses, there should have been some *joint act*, of a legislative character, directing the Church in her action upon the subject, if the Convention intended that any such action should take place previous to their next session. As the Journal states the question, there does not appear to me any thing more than a *preparation* to act. In the language of the house of deputies there has been a concurrence of opinion, '*in order that measures may be taken,*' but as the Convention took no measures thereupon, either by Canon or by resolution, the only modes in which a legislative body can regularly act; it results that the whole matter stands precisely as it did before. Whether the next General Convention will chuse to promulgate any directory upon the subject, remains to be seen.

For myself, I consider the question decided, by the considerations already mentioned; but, as I have been requested to express my views on another argument sometimes urged in support of the opinion of the House of Bishops, I proceed to state them accordingly, with all kindness and respect to those who differ from me.

The argument to which I refer, has been derived from the practice of our congregations in repeating the confession ordered for Ash-Wednesday, and the Lord's prayer in the Post-communion office, *with* the minister; although the rubric directs them to be said *after* him. And hence it has been contended, that the Church has put a practical construction on the word '*after,*' in these two parts of the liturgy, which makes it synonymous with the word '*with,*' and which therefore justifies the new mode of repeating the general confession, without waiting for any act of Conventional legislation.

To this, as it appears to me, the answer is very obvious. It has never been denied and never can be, that the universal practice of the Church approved the meaning of the word *after*, in reference to the *General* confession, to be according to its usual meaning. Now this practice was either right or wrong. Wrong

it could not have been, because it *accorded with the language of the rubric*. But if right, then the inadvertence of the loose and erroneous practice adopted on communion days, or on Ash-Wednesdays, cannot be permitted to supersede it, so as to destroy the better and stronger rule.

Again, however, it should be remembered, that the case of the Lord's prayer is one in which a diversity occurs in the mode of using the very same words. In the daily morning and evening prayer, and in every other place where it is introduced, this prayer is directed to be said *with* the minister. It is only in the Post-communion that it is ordered to be said *after* him. And this fact accounts for the loose practice adverted to, for the Post-communion being much more rarely used than the other, and by a much smaller portion of every congregation, it is hardly to be expected that the worshippers would exercise so much rubrical nicety as to remark the difference, for they would naturally use that method to which the standard of the Morning and Evening Prayer had accustomed them. Properly considered, therefore, the argument founded on the Lord's prayer, in the Post-communion office, seems entitled to no favor, since it is not because our people think the word *after*, synonymous with the word *with*, that they repeat this prayer, subsequent to communion, in the common manner, but because they are accustomed to the mode of repeating it, which the frequent and well established forms of the Morning and Evening prayer have directed; and do not observe that the Post-communion office has ordered it in the other way.

The argument derived from the Ash-Wednesday confession is still less applicable, because it is a form which occurs only once a year, at most; and which many of our Churches in the country never observe at all. The congregations on that occasion, are well known to be the smallest of all our congregations, and it would be strange, indeed, if their practice, whatever it may be, should control the meaning of the liturgy, in the far more important services of the Lord's day.

For the reasons assigned, I have seen no ground to direct the Church in our diocese to make this change in their old established modes of worship. And hence, in no parish throughout the State, has the new plan been adopted. Many of the bishops indeed, thought otherwise, and issued circular letters on the occasion, recommending the change to their dioceses, for the sake of uniformity. And if it were possible for me to see the subject in the same light, it would have given me pleasure to have taken the same course, not only that I might avoid the imputation of singularity, but that I might do my utmost to encourage the spirit of concord amongst my brethren.

But this is not the first time that I have felt myself compelled to differ on the subject of the liturgy, nor will it probably be the last ; for the tendency to innovate is so strongly characteristic of the age, that it would be no wonder if it were often seen even amongst ourselves. My leading principles, however, have long been such, that I am not likely to be forward in promoting any change, unless we can gain by it some nearer approximation to those standards of authority which I am accustomed to venerate. First, and chiefly, the Bible; next the primitive Church, and thirdly the Church of England, furnish those standards which I acknowledge. It is the highest glory of our Church that she is eminently *Scriptural*. It is her next recommendation that she is *primitive*. And it is her third claim to peculiar respect that she is *fixed and steadfast*—not given to change. The solemn vow of conformity to her worship, as well as to her doctrines, is upon us. True, the matter in question is a small thing in itself. But as Christ himself has said, that he who is faithful in that which is least, is faithful also in much : and as the principles involved in this question, are the very same on which the whole force of our ecclesiastical Constitution depends, I must continue to stand where the law of the Church has placed me, until the proper legal action of two General Conventions shall have authorized some other rule. Nor shall I give my voice in favor of the

change when it comes regularly before our Ecclesiastical legislature. The very fact that it is a little thing in itself, is with me decisive against it, for I will not consent to multiply needless departures from the modes of the mother Church for the sake of a little thing, nor will I sanction deviations from our own established system, unless I see in their support some argument which looks like ecclesiastical authority. That so unaccommodating a course will be pleasing to all my respected brethren, I do not expect; but I shall console myself by the conviction, that in the end, it will not be found unprofitable.

(Signed.)

JOHN H. HOPKINS.

The Financial Committee laid before the Convention an apportionment upon the respective parishes of the salary pledged for the support of the Theological Professor of the Diocese, which apportionment was accepted by a vote of the Laity in accordance with the seventh Article of the Constitution, and was as follows, viz :

Calvary Church, Berkshire,	\$24,00
Christ Church, Enosburgh,	8,00
Union Church, Montgomery,	10,00
St. John's Church, Highgate,	30,00
Union Church, St. Albans,	40,00
Grace Church, Sheldon,	15,00
Trinity Church, Fairfield,	12,00
Christ Church, Fairfax,	12,00
St. Paul's Church, Burlington,	60,00
Trinity Church, Shelburn,	15,00
St. Paul's Church, Vergennes,	30,00
St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,	40,00
Trinity Church, Rutland,	40,00
St. John's Church, Poultney,	8,00
St. Stephen's Church, Tinmouth,	6,00
St. Paul's Church, Wells,	7,00
Zion Church, Manchester,	20,00

St. James' Church, Arlington,	40,00
St. Peter's Church, Bennington,	10,00
Christ Church, Guilford,	20,00
Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls,	40,00
St. Peter's Church, Brattleboro',	12,00
St. Paul's Church, Windsor,	40,00
St. James' Church, Woodstock,	40,00
Christ Church, Bethel,	16,00
St. Paul's Church, Royalton,	6,00
Grace Church, Randolph,	20,00

\$621,00

On motion of Mr. Cleaveland,

Resolved, That the Standing Committee are hereby appointed a Board of Trustees, with full powers to make regulations for the course of study, and to make laws and statutes for the establishment and government of the Theological Seminary of the diocese for the year ensuing; and to consider and report upon the propriety of taking measures in the next Convention for procuring an act of incorporation for the Theological Institution of this Diocese.

On motion of the Rev. C. Chase,

The Secretary was directed to cause 500 copies of the Journal to be printed; and to send eight copies of the same by mail to each clergyman of the diocese.

On motion of the Rev. George Allen,

Resolved, That after the usual religious services, this Convention shall be adjourned.

Whereupon, after prayers, and the benediction by the Bishop, the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

JOHN HENRY HOPKINS, D. D.

President of the Convention.

Attest,

S. A. CRANE,

Secretary.

APPENDIX I.

LIST OF THE CLERGY

IN THE DIOCESE OF VERMONT.

The Rt. Rev. JOHN HENRY HOPKINS, D. D. Bishop of
the Diocese, and Rector of St. Paul's Church, Burlington.

PRESBYTERS.

The Rev. George Allen.

The Rev. Darius Barker, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Windsor.

The Rev. Carlton Chase, Rector of Immanuel Church, Bel-
lows Falls.

The Rev. S. A. Crane, Rector of Trinity Church, Shelburn.

The Rev. Charles Fay, residing in Burlington.

The Rev. Luman Foote, Rector of Christ Church, Guilford.

The Rev. John Grigg, Rector of St. James Church, Arlington.

The Rev. John A. Hicks, Rector of Trinity Church, Rutland.

The Rev. William Henry Hoit, Rector of St. Stephen's Church,
Middlebury.

The Rev. Louis McDonald, Rector of Grace Church, Sheldon.

The Rev. B. C. C. Parker, Rector of St. James' Church,
Woodstock.

The Rev. Richard Peck, residing in Sheldon.

The Rev. James Sabine, Rector of Christ Church, Bethel.

The Rev. Alvi Tabor Twing, Rector of St. Paul's Church,
Vergennes.

DEACONS.

The Rev. David S. Devens.

**The Rev. Darwin B. Mason, Minister of St. Paul's Church,
Wells.**

**The Rev. John T. Sabine, Minister of St. John's Church,
Highgate.**

The Rev. Zadoc Thompson, residing in Burlington.

Candidates for Holy Orders in the Diocese of Vermont.

John A. Spooner,

John Brown Pratt,

George Paine Hopkins,

Albin Kendall Putnam,

William H. A. Bissell,

Oliver H. Staples,

Willard P. Gibson, M. D.

Norman W. Camp,

Josiah Obear,

Higby Throop,

Nathaniel Sprague,

Samuel B. Bostwick.

APPENDIX II.

LIST OF THE CHURCHES

In the Diocese of Vermont, with the names of their respective
Delegates at the Convention of 1837.

Calvary Church, Berkshire,	Micah T. Catlin.
Christ Church, Enosburgh.	
Union Church, Montgomery,	Rufus Hamilton.
St. John's Church, Highgate.	
St. Luke's Church, Alburgh.	
Union Church, St. Albans,	{ Orange Ferris.
	{ Gardner G. Smith.
Grace Church, Sheldon,	Isaac J. Potter.
Trinity Church, Fairfield.	
Christ Church, Fairfax,	Lyman Hawley.
Trinity Church, Milton.	
St. Paul's Church, Burlington,	{ R. G. Cole,
	{ T. F. Strong,
	{ Jacob Owen.
Trinity Church, Shelburn,	{ Joshua Isham.
	{ Asa Lyons 2d.
St. Paul's Church, Vergennes,	Philip C. Tucker.
St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,	{ George Cleveland,
	{ Nahum Parker.
Trinity Church, Rutland,	{ Jonathan Chipman Thrall.
	{ Luther Thrall.
St. Stephen's Church, Tiamouth,	Spencer Waldo.
St. John's Church, Poultney,	Amon Bailey.
St. Paul's Church, Wells,	David B. Lewis.
Trinity Church, Pawlet,	

Zion Church, Manchester,	James Cook.
St. James' Church, Arlington.	Cyrus B. Hills.
St. Peter's Church, Bennington.	
Christ Church, Guilford.	
St. Peter's Church, Brattleborough.	
Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls,	Alexander Fleming.
Union Church, Springfield.	
St. John's Church, Perkinsville.	
St. Paul's Church, Windsor.	
St. James' Church, Woodstock.	
Christ Church, Bethel,	Paul Flinn.
St. Paul's Church, Royalton.	
Grace Church, Randolph.	
St. Andrew's Church, Norwich.	

The Church in this Diocese consists of the Bishop, 14 Presbyters, 4 Deacons, and 33 organized Societies.



NOTICE.

The next annual Convention of this Diocese, will be holden in St. Paul's Church, Burlington, on the third Wednesday of September, 1838, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

S. A. CRANE,
Secretary.

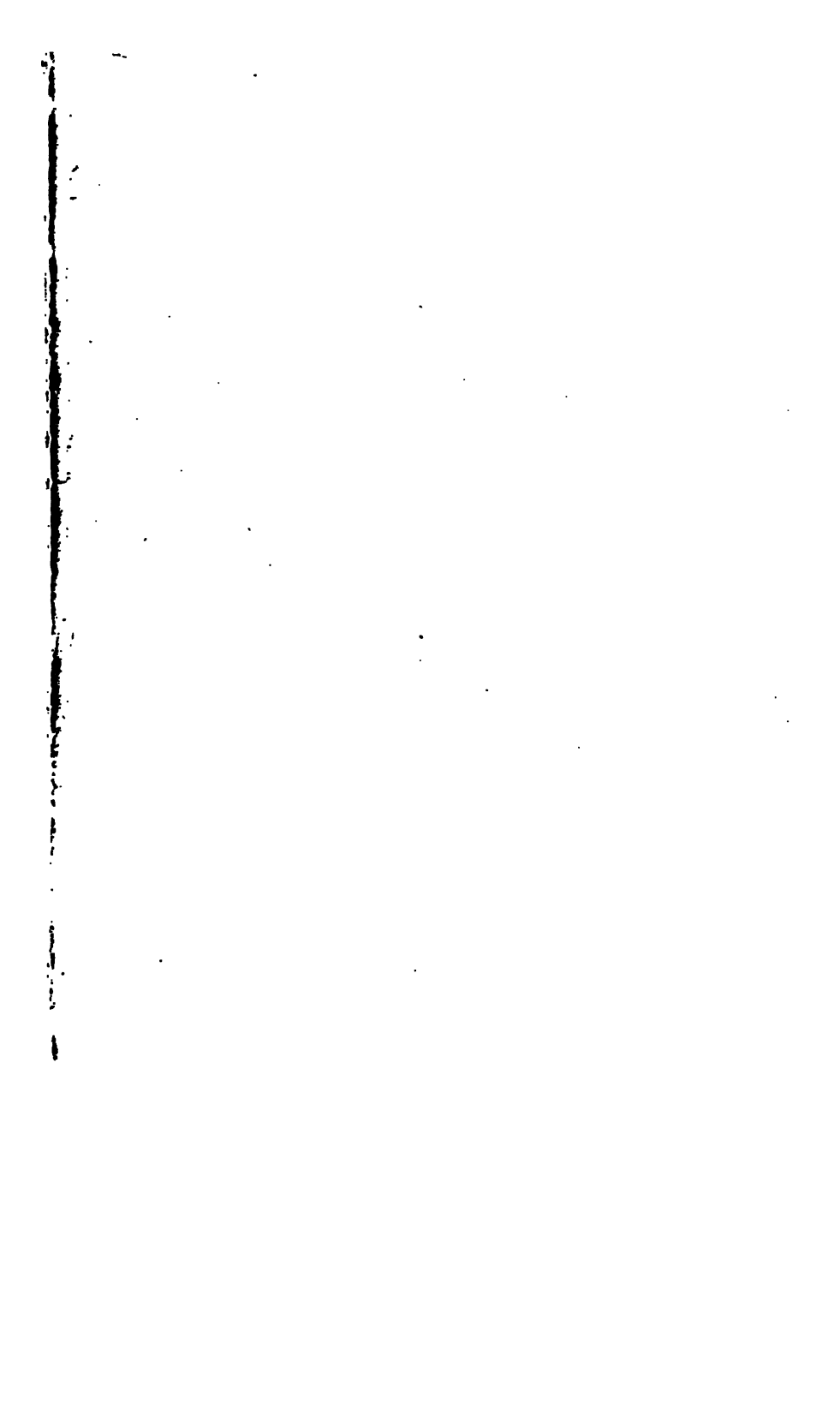
Form of Certificates for Lay Delegates.

"I hereby certify that at a meeting of the Vesty of—— Church in—— holden as the Canon directs on Easter Monday in the year of our Lord—— A. B. and C. D. &c. members of the vestry, were duly elected Delegates to represent the said Parish in the ensuing Convention of the Diocese."

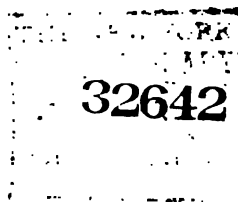
N. M. *Secretary of the Vestry.*

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JOURNAL
OF THE
FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVENTION
OF THE
Protestant Episcopal Church,
IN THE
DIOCESE OF VERMONT.
1838.



JOURNAL
OF THE
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE



FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVENTION,

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE

DIOCESE OF VERMONT;

HELD IN

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, BURLINGTON,

ON THE

SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH DAYS OF OCTOBER,

1838.

BURLINGTON:
CHAUNCEY GOODRICH.

1838.



JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS, &c.

At the annual Convention of the Diocese of Vermont, holden at St. Paul's Church, Burlington, on the the 3d Wednesday of September, A. D. 1838, present,

The Rev. Charles Fay, Rector of St. John's Church, Highgate, and Jesse J. Starr and Geo. B. Shaw, Lay-Delegates from St. Paul's Church, Burlington.

The Rev. Charles Fay, in the absence of the Bishop and of the President of the Standing Committee, was elected chairman of the Convention, and

Geo. B. Shaw, Secretary.

On motion, the Convention was adjourned to the 3d Wednesday in Oct. 1838.*

Attest.

GEO. B. SHAW, Secretary.

St. Paul's Church, Burlington, }
Oct. 17, 1838. }

This being the day to which the annual Convention of this Diocese was adjourned, the Bishop, and several of the Clergy and Lay-Delegates assembled in St. Paul's Church, Burlington; and at 3 o'clock P. M. the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese took the chair and called the Convention to order, the Rev. S. A. Crane, Secretary.

*The time appointed for the meeting of the General Convention being the 5th day of September, 1838, the attendance of the Bishop and deputies at Philadelphia, as members of that body, rendered the adjournment of the diocesan Convention necessary.

On calling the list of the Clergy entitled to seats in the Convention, and of the Parishes entitled to representation in the same, a quorum of both Clergy and Laity was declared to be present, and the Convention was duly organized.

The Clergy present were the Rt. Rev. Bishop Hopkins, the Rev. Carlton Chase, the Rev. S. A. Crane, the Rev. Charles Fay, the Rev. John A. Hicks, the Rev. William Henry Hoit, and the Rev. Louis McDonald.

The Lay-Delegates present were Messrs. David Coburn, Dolphus Paul, John L. Clapp, Caleb Mead, Robert L. Paddock, Seth P. Eastman, Isaac J. Potter, Bela Chittenden, Asa Lyon, Cyrus Booth, Joel Doolittle, Rollin Marshall, John C. Hopson, Jr. John C. Roberts, John B. Lathrop, Buckley Squires, Luther Foote, Phineas Atwater, Jesse J. Starr, and John A. Arthur.

On Motion, *Resolved*, That Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, not canonically entitled to seats in the Convention, all Clergymen of the Church of England, and all Candidates for Holy Orders in this Church, who may be in town, be, and hereby are invited to attend the sessions of this Convention.

Whereupon, the Rev. Jacob W. Diller, Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury; the Rev. A. H. Cull, officiating at Zion Church, Manchester; the Rev. O. H. Staples, Minister of St. Paul's Church, Windsor; the Rev. Josiah Obear, Minister at Berkshire, Montgomery, and Enosburgh; the Rev. Messrs. Thompson, Putnam, Hopkins and Sprague, all of this Diocese; the Rev. Dexter Potter of the Diocese of Massachusetts, and the Rev. William F. Walker of the Diocese of New York, appeared and took seats in the Convention.

The Bishop then delivered his Address.

ADDRESS.

BELoved BRETHREN :

Since the period of our last Convention, much has been done of general interest to the Church at large, and several changes have taken place within our own borders. A season of gloom and depression has passed over the whole of our country, through which the kindness of a protecting Providence has brought us with but little comparative suffering ; and amidst the salutary lessons of wisdom taught by experience, with many an affecting proof of the transitory and deceptive nature of all earthly things, we have assembled once more to consult together for the welfare, in our particular department, of that only society which regards the business of life in its true connexion with the interests of eternity. Would to God, my brethren, that we might all estimate aright, the overwhelming importance of the trust thus committed to us. Would to God that the prosperity and support of the Church, which the Lord of glory purchased to himself at the price of his own blood, held the preëminence justly due to them above every earthly undertaking.

The record of my episcopal acts shall be briefly stated, together with such changes in the diocese as demand our notice ; and then I shall set forth the other topics which seem, more especially, to call for your best consideration.

In pursuance to previous notice to that effect, I visited St. Paul's Church, Vergennes, then under the pastoral care of Rev. A. T. Twing, on Friday, the 13th of October, 1837, where I preached, and confirmed five persons.

On the 15th of the same month, being the 21st Sunday after Trinity, I visited St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury, then under the pastoral care of Rev. W. H. Hoit, where I preached, and confirmed one person.

Tuesday, the 17th, I visited Trinity Church, Rutland, under the pastoral care of Rev. John A. Hicks, where I preached, and confirmed two persons.

Wednesday, the 18th, I visited St. Stephen's Church, Timmouth, then under the ministerial care of Rev. D. B. Mason, where I preached, and confirmed six persons.

Thursday, the 19th, I visited St. John's Church, Poultney, then vacant, and preached. There were no confirmations.

Friday, the 20th, I visited St. Paul's Church, Wells, then under the ministerial care of Rev. D. B. Mason, where I preached, and confirmed two persons.

Saturday, the 21st, I visited Trinity Church, Pawlet, and preached.

Sunday, the 22d of the month, and the 22d after Trinity, I visited Zion Church, Manchester, in the morning, and preached. This Church was then vacant, but has since been supplied.

In the afternoon of the same day, I visited St. James' Church, Arlington, under the pastoral care of Rev. John Grigg, where I preached. There were no confirmations, the parish having been vacant for a considerable time, and their present rector having only just commenced his labors.

Monday, the 23d, I visited St. Peter's Church, Bennington, and preached. There were many circumstances of discouragement and difficulty which threw a cloud over the prospects of this interesting parish. It gives me great pleasure to add, however, that in the order of a gracious Providence, the darkness has passed away; and they enjoy their commodious and handsome place of worship, together with the whole time of their first and zealous pastor: a lesson to all that we should never be weary of well doing, for in due time we shall reap, if we faint not.

Wednesday, the 25th, I visited St. Peter's Church, Brattleboro,' and preached.

Thursday, the 26th, I visited Christ Church, Guilford, preached, and administered the Eucharist. Both these parishes were at that time under the pastoral care of Rev. Luman Foote.

Sunday, the 29th, being the 23d Sunday after Trinity, I visited Emmanuel Church, Bellows Falls, under the pastoral care of Rev. Carlton Chase, preached, and confirmed eight persons.

Monday, the 30th, I visited Union Church, Springfield, preached, and confirmed two persons. This parish, as also the adjoining one of St. John's Church, Perkinsville, was then and still continues vacant.

Tuesday, the 31st, I visited St. Paul's Church, Windsor, then under the pastoral care of Rev. Darius Barker, where I preached, and confirmed three persons.

Wednesday, the 1st November, I visited St. James' Church, Woodstock, under the pastoral care of Rev. B. C. C. Parker, where I preached.

Thursday, the 2d of the same month, I visited St. Paul's Church, Royalton, where I preached, and on the following morning, Friday, I consecrated their neat and commodious edifice to the service of the Almighty.

This young and promising parish had no settled pastor, but enjoyed the occasional and zealous labors of the Rev. James Sabine. Since then, however, the Rev. D. Potter of Massachusetts, has officiated regularly half his time.

Friday, the 3d Nov. I visited Christ Church, Bethel, and preached, and on Saturday morning, I preached again, and confirmed two persons. The pastor, Rev. James Sabine, then accompanied me to another fruit of his faithful labors, Grace Church, Randolph, where I preached on the following day, Sunday, the 24th after Trinity.

On the 18th of February, 1838, being Sexagesima Sunday,

I visited Union Church, St. Albans, to which the Rev. W. H. Hoit had removed from Middlebury, where I preached.

And in the evening of the same day, I visited Swanton Falls, and preached again.

Monday, the 19th, I visited St. Luke's Church, Alburgh, where I was kindly met by Rev. Mr. Townsend of the Province of Lower Canada, and preached.

Wednesday, the 21st, I visited Calvary Church, Berkshire, then vacant, and preached in the morning.

In the afternoon of the same day, I proceeded to Union Church, Montgomery, and preached.

Thursday, the 22d, I visited Christ Church, Enosburgh, preached, and confirmed one person. These parishes, then vacant, have since been supplied with ministerial services. I proceeded to Sheldon and preached the same evening, at Grace Church, under the pastoral care of Rev. Louis Mc'Donald.

Friday, the 23d, I visited Trinity Church, Fairfield, then vacant, and preached.

In the afternoon of the same day, I visited Christ Church, Fairfax, and preached in the school house at Buck-hollow.

Saturday, the 24th, I preached again at Grace Church, Sheldon.

Sunday, 25th, I visited St. John's Church, Highgate, of which the Rev. Charles Fay had just taken the pastoral charge, where I preached.

And on special request, founded on peculiar circumstances, I visited Trinity Church, Rutland, a second time, on Sunday, the 17th of June last, where I preached, and confirmed twelve persons.

To the above are to be added the episcopal services performed in St. Paul's Church, Burlington, viz:

January 28th, 1838, the fourth Sunday after Epiphany, I confirmed 14 persons, and April 13th, being Good Friday, I confirmed 5 persons more, in all, 19 persons.

The ordinations since the last Convention were as follows: viz.

On the 3d of June, 1838, being the festival of Whit Sunday, at St. Paul's Church, Burlington, I ordained to the Holy Order of Deacons, Messrs. John Brown Pratt, Oliver H. Staples, and Josiah Obear.

And this day, the 18th of October, at the same place, and in your presence, I have ordained Messrs. Albin K. Putnam, George P. Hopkins, Nathaniel Sprague, and Willard P. Gibson, to the Holy Order of Deacons.

The ministerial changes in the diocese have been as follows: viz.

The Rev. Josiah Obear has been engaged as the minister of Calvary Church, Berkshire, Union Church, Montgomery, and Christ Church, Enosburgh.

The Rev. Charles Fay has become the Rector of St. John's Church, Highgate.

The Rev. William Henry Hoit has resigned his charge of St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury, and has become the Rector of Union Church, St. Albans.

The Rev. Luman Foote has resigned his charge of Christ Church, Guilford, and St. Peter's Church Brattleboro', and has become the Rector of St. John's Church, Poultney.

The Rev. J. B. Pratt has taken the ministerial charge of Christ Church, Guilford.

The Rev. Darius Barker has resigned his charge of St. Paul's Church, Windsor, and the Rev. O. H. Staples is now the officiating minister of that parish.

The following clergymen have taken letters dimissory: viz.

The Rev. George Allen, to the diocese of Delaware.

" Alvi T. Twing, to the diocese of New York.

" David S. Devens, to the Eastern diocese.

" Darwin B. Mason, to the diocese of New York.

On the other hand, the following clergymen have been received into the diocese: viz.

The Rev. Henry A. Cull, from the Eastern diocese, has taken the ministerial charge of Zion Church, Manchester.

The Rev. John Grigg, from the diocese of New York, has become the Rector of St. James' Church, Arlington.

The Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston, from the same diocese, has returned to his former residence at Bennington, and gives his whole time to his parish there.

The Rev. Jacob Diller, from the same diocese, has become the Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.

But two new candidates for orders have been entered on the list since the last convention, although several others would have been, if suitable encouragement could have been afforded to them.

On the whole, therefore, we find that as many clergymen have been added to us from abroad as have left us, while seven of our own candidates have been ordained; so that our whole number of clergy has increased, in a little less than six years since my coming into the diocese, from eleven to twenty-four. Of these, there are only six remaining of the original number. While during this period, eighteen have been instructed and ordained among ourselves; clearly demonstrating the vital necessity of making adequate provision for the future wants of the Church, out of the resources which the Lord of the harvest raises up within our own borders.

Amongst the transactions of the late General Convention which assembled at Philadelphia on the fifth day of Sept. last, and which made it necessary to adjourn our diocesan convention to the present time, I was much gratified to perceive the strong expression of interest in favor of education. That it was the duty of the Church to provide her own institutions for the Christian education of her children, not of her candidates for the ministry only, but of all within her pale, was a sentiment which was expressed with a degree of unanimity and feeling, seldom witnessed within my experience on any other question. Devoted as I have been to the subject for more than thirteen years, it was with

no small gratitude to the Giver of every good and perfect gift, that I found the universal disposition in its favor; and I have anticipated more important results from this one movement, than from any other, if the practice can be made at all commensurate with the principle.

With respect to our own diocese, you are aware that from the commencement of my episcopate I have made it a topic of yearly recommendation, that provision should be made at least for the education of our Candidates for Orders. At our last Convention, my urgent desire to have a Theological Professor appointed received the sanction of your vote; but the gentleman whom we nominated to the office accepted a more inviting call from another quarter, where I doubt not his talents and zeal will reap a suitable reward. And I trust in the over-ruling wisdom of a gracious Providence, that our disappointment at that time will prove the means of guiding us to a more effectual mode of supplying the existing deficiency.

For my own part, so earnest have I been on the subject of education, that I have devoted myself, my family, and my whole property, as most of you know, to an establishment for that purpose, on a scale which cannot be called discreditable either to our Church or to our State. The ground allotted to the institution contains nearly 14 acres. One wing of the establishment is dedicated to the uses of a gymnasium, on episcopal principles, calculated to accommodate 70 pupils. The other is designed for a Theological Seminary consisting of from fifteen to twenty students under the care of a resident Professor. The whole is now completed, and it is my desire to transfer it to the diocese at cost, as soon as you shall deem it expedient to adopt the plan. It was my intention to have left this property to the Church as a legacy, should it please God to prosper my labors so as to put it in my power. But I have been led to believe that the object designed would be much better accomplished if the establishment should immediately present the aspect of a public institution.—

Endowments for professorships, scholarships, libraries and apparatus, together with the cost of the real estate and buildings, form an aggregate quite too large for the means at my disposal.

There is another subject to which I feel bound to call your special attention. The Church lands in our diocese, as you are all well aware, have been the subject of a bitter and painful contest during a protracted struggle of nearly forty years. The question of law has been settled in the Courts of the United States, and the right of the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel to these lands, is no longer fairly exposed to doubt or to difficulty.

Under whatever aspect our minds might view the expediency of this contest, if it were an original question, the thing is now to be regarded as done, and not to be undone. But there is one point on which I should think all must agree. It is this. The Venerable Society who are the legal proprietors of these lands, certainly intended to give the control and the benefit of them to the Church in this diocese. But in fact, we have no control over them whatever, nor is it in the power of this convention to obtain even an account of the receipts and expenditures. I do not mean to question that they have been managed in the best possible manner. I am willing to take it for granted that the gentlemen composing the board of agency have been as zealous, as careful, as prudent, as impartial, and as judicious in their whole stewardship, as their warmest friends could desire. How could I doubt it? They are men of acknowledged character and high estimation, our friends and our brethren. Inasmuch, however, as the board of agency are not the owners of these lands, but merely trustees, holding their office for our benefit, it seems just and reasonable that this Convention, which is the only body representing the whole diocese, should have the power to bring them to account when we please, and to exercise some of our discretion upon the mode in which their trust is discharged.

The uniform kindness and liberality of the Venerable Society

for the Propagation of the Gospel in relation to this subject, leaves no room to doubt, that they would readily adopt any modification of the agency which should be recommended by this Convention, and be within the limits of their Charter. And I propose it, brethren, as a subject worthy of your present deliberation, that you should pass such resolutions as the case may seem to require ; being ready to act as your messenger and agent in England, in order to bring the whole matter to a speedy and satisfactory issue. In this event I should think it advisable to proceed forthwith, so as to return, by the blessing of a gracious Providence, in the course of the next month of April, in time to make a summer visitation.

Brethren, the time is short with us all ; we had need to be up and doing. All the Christian promptitude and energy in our power are none too much, if we would render a good account of our stewardship. May the Spirit of wisdom and might direct and counsel us in our deliberations, guide us in our aims, purify our motives, point out to us the best instrumentality for the greatest amount of good, and make us, individually and collectively, faithful unto death, that we may have our part at last in the crown of glory.

On motion, *Resolved*, that so much of the Bishop's Address as relates to the Lands and Land-Agency be referred to a special Committee of three Clergymen and three Laymen.

The Committee appointed were the Rev. Messrs. Fay, Crane, and Hicks ; and Messrs. Eastman, Roberts, and Booth.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee of three Clergymen and three Laymen be appointed to report to this Convention on that part of the Bishop's Address relating to a Theological Seminary.

The Committee were the Rev. Messrs. Hoit, McDonald, and Chase, and Messrs. Mead, Paddock, and Potter.

On motion, the Rev. Messrs. Hicks, and Hoit, and Messrs.

Doolittle and Marshall were appointed a Committee to nominate a Standing Committee, Treasurer of the Convention, and Delegates to the General Convention, for the ensuing year.

On motion, the Rev. Messrs. Crane and Chase, and Messrs. Squires, Foote, and Lathrop were appointed the Financial Committee.

The Convention adjourned till 9 o'clock to morrow morning.

St. Paul's Church, Oct. 18. }
9 o'clock, A. M. }

The Convention met according to adjournment.

The records of the preceding day were read and approved.

The Committee on that part of the Bishop's Address relating to the Lands and Land-Agency in this Diocese, made the following Report :

1. *Whereas*, The Venerable Society in England for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, in the selection of a Board of Agents for the management of their lands in the State of Vermont, did appoint the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, under whose jurisdiction the Diocese of Vermont then was, a member of that Board ; it is thence inferred that it is the wish of that Venerable Society that the Bishop of that Diocese, to the use and benefit of which they have given the proceeds of these lands, should be one of the Board of Agents to whose care they are entrusted : and, *Whereas*, in consequence of the recent removal of the Diocese of Vermont from the jurisdiction of the Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, that Prelate is no longer an acting member of the Board of Agents : and, *Whereas*, the Diocese of Vermont is now an independent Diocese having its own Bishop : and, *Whereas*, that Bishop is not in fact a member of the Board of Agents :—Therefore, *Resolved*, That this Convention does hereby respectfully request

The Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, to appoint the Bishop of the Diocese of Vermont, *ex officio*, a member, and the President, of their Board of Agents for the management of their lands in the State of Vermont.

2. *Whereas*, the Rev. Abraham Bronson, a member of the Board of Agents has removed from this Diocese, and by reason of his distant residence cannot meet with, and act in, that Board : *Therefore, Resolved*, that this Convention does hereby nominate and recommend the Rev. William Henry Hoit, a Presbyter of this Diocese, to be added to the Board of Agents.

3. *Resolved*, That this Convention does hereby respectfully request the Venerable Society to make it the duty of their Board of Agents to draw up and present to the annual Convention of this Diocese, a regular account of the annual receipts, expenditures, and appropriations made by them in the discharge of their trust.

4. *Resolved*, That this Convention does hereby express its entire satisfaction with the powers vested in the present Board of Agents; and also its full and perfect confidence in the diligence, ability, and fidelity with which they have discharged the duties of their trust.

5. *Resolved*, That this Convention does hereby request its Bishop to communicate the foregoing Preambles and Resolutions to The Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts; and also to make known to that Venerable Society the high sense of respect and gratitude entertained by the Protestant Episcopal Church in this Diocese, not only for the original appropriation, but also for the ready kindness, and indulgent attention, which they have ever given in rendering all the assistance necessary to make the proceeds of the appropriation available to the use and benefit of the Church in this Diocese.

The foregoing Report was accepted, and the Resolutions and Preambles were adopted.

The Committee on Theological Education made the following Report :

The Committee to whom was referred that part of the Bishop's address relating to a Theological Seminary, would respectfully report :

That, from the importance of the subject, as now presented by the Bishop in connexion with the subject of making provisions for the other departments of Education, they do not feel themselves able, with their present limited opportunity for consultation and reflection, to recommend a definite plan for the action of the Convention at this time, and beg, therefore, to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

The Report was accepted, and the Committee was accordingly discharged.

The Convention adjourned till 3 o'clock P. M.

St. Paul's Church, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

The following Preamble and Resolutions were offered, and on motion were respectively adopted.

Whereas, the subject of Education as presented by the Bishop in his Address is one of great importance, and of extensive bearing on the future condition and prosperity of the Church in this Diocese ; and, *Whereas*, this Convention is not so fully attended as the magnitude and novelty of the subject demand ; *Therefore, Resolved*, 1. That this Convention recommends to the next Convention the consideration of the important question, whether this Diocese will, in its Convention and as a Diocese, undertake the work of Education as presented in the Bishop's Address.

Resolved, 2. That this Convention highly appreciates the very energetic and self-sacrificing efforts of its Bishop in the

great cause of Education; and recommends his noble enterprise to the Christian favor and liberal aid of the Sister Dioceses in this country, and of the Mother Church in England; provided, he shall see fit to present his plans, and make his appeal either to one or to both of them.

Mr. Eastman was excused from further attendance.

PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

Calvary Church, East Berkshire.

The Rev. J. Obear, Minister.

The present minister has been connected with this Parish only since the first of July last, and has preached every third Sunday, to a respectable congregation. The service of the church, however, is read by laymen, every Sunday in his absence. Communicants, 50. Marriages 3. Burials. 2.

Christ's Church, Enosburgh.

The Rev. J. Obear, Minister.

Since the first of July last, the present minister has preached in this parish every third Sunday. The congregation is small in consequence of having no convenient place for worship. A few zealous members, however, are making exertions to erect a house for this purpose. Communicants, 35.

Since the last report there have been 3 confirmations.

Union Church, Montgomery.

The Rev. J. Obear, Minister.

The present minister has preached in this Parish every third Sunday, since the first of last July. The congregation is respectable and rather increasing. The service of the Church is regularly performed by lay members in his absence. Communicants, 52. Baptisms, 2 infants.

Grace Church, Sheldon.

The Rev. Louis McDonald, Rector.

To the number of our communicants two have been added.
Baptisms, Infants 5. Adult 1.

St. John's Church, Highgate.

The Rev. Charles Fay, Rector.

I have officiated in this parish a little more than six months. My predecessors having left no parish register behind them, I am unable to determine accurately the previous condition of the parish. As far as I can ascertain there were 35 communicants when I began to officiate. Since then 14 have been added to the communion. Four have removed, leaving 45 as the present number. Baptisms, 20. (Adults, 6, Children, 14.) Marriages, 3. Funerals, 7.

Union Church, St. Albans.

The Rev. William Henry Hoit, Rector.

Since the date of its last parochial report, this parish has been for a part of the time, destitute of clerical care and supervision, through the resignation and removal of its former Rector, the Rev. George Allen, whose state of health required of him a relinquishment of the public duties of the ministry, and whose valuable services are now employed in one of our Southern literary institutions. The present Rector, since assuming the charge of the parish, has no other official acts to report than the performance of the ordinary public services of the Church. The congregation, though small, is very uniform, and altogether, the prospects of the parish, it is believed, both temporally and spiritually, are highly favorable.

St. Paul's Church, Burlington.

The Rt. Rev. John H. Hopkins, D. D. Rector.

Baptisms, 17 Infants, 7 Adults, Total 24. Communicants, added, 20, total number, about 125. Marriages, 5. Funerals, 7.

The general condition of the congregation does not present any topic for especial observation.

Trinity Church, Shelburne.

The Rev. S. A. Crane, Rector.

In this Church, since the last Convention there has been service but one half of the time. The number of communicants is not increased, nor has there been any material improvement in the condition of the Society in other respects. Baptisms, 2.—Marriages, 3. Funerals, 3.

St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.

The Rev. A. K. Putnam, Minister.

The late Rector of this Church resigned his charge in June last. Since that time the services of the Church have been maintained by lay-reading. The number of communicants has been somewhat diminished by removals. But there remain warm hearts and active hands in the cause of our Zion. The Sunday School is sustained with great interest, and a considerable addition has lately been made to its library.

Baptisms during the past year, 10. (Adults 3, Infants 7.)—Confirmations, 5. Marriages, 3. Burials, 5. Communicants, about 50.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.

The Rev. J. W. Diller, Rector.

Communicants, added, 1. Total, 85. Baptisms, (Adult, 1. Infants, 6.) total, 7. Funerals, 2.

I assumed the charge of this Parish on the 12th of August last. The Congregation had been deprived of the services of a regularly officiating minister since the resignation (in January) of their late Rector, whose services had secured for him in a high degree, their respect and affection. During this interval, the congregation manifested their love for the Church of their choice, by a constant attendance on lay-reading. They are united among themselves, and are Churchmen from principle. The Sunday

School numbers about 50 scholars and 8 teachers. I superintend it myself, and on the afternoon of the 1st Sunday in the month, preach to the children, and afterwards catechise them. I have officiated regularly twice on Sundays, and on the Friday evening previous to the administration of the Holy Communion. In addition to the above services, I have commenced a series of discourses on the Liturgy and peculiarities of the Church. My flock is small, but by the blessing of God upon my humble labors, will, I trust, increase, both in numbers and in spirituality.

Trinity Church, Rutland.

The Rev. John A. Hicks, Rector.

Since the last Convention, the Rector has solemnized 4 marriages, and baptized 7 adults. The Bishop at his annual visitation confirmed two persons. At the request of the Rector, he kindly consented to visit the parish again in July, and confirmed twelve persons. Four communicants have removed since the last report, and sixteen have been added to the parish list, making the present number forty-six. The parish contributed the past year \$100 to the board of Missions. The increase in the number of communicants is thankfully acknowledged by the Rector, as the blessing of God upon his labors, and an encouragement to future effort.

St. John's Church, Poultney.

The Rev. Luman Foote, Rector.

The Rector entered upon the charge of this parish on the first Sunday in May last, and has labored in it three fourths of the time since. Number of Communicants, 40. Baptisms, 1 (Infant.) Marriages 1. Deaths 3.

St. Stephen's Church, Tynmouth.

The Rev. Luman Foote, Rector.

The present Rector has preached in this parish every fourth Sunday since the first of May last. Number of Communicants, 12. Confirmations, 6. Baptized 1 Infant.

St. Paul's Church, Wells.

The Rev. Lucius M. Purdy, (of the diocese of Conn.) officiating minister.

Families 15. Communicants, removed, 1. added, 6. Present number, 26. Baptisms, (Infants 10, Adults 2.) total, 12. Confirmations 2. Several candidates are waiting confirmation. **Marriages 1.** Burials, 2. The Rev. D. B. Mason relinquished the charge of this parish at Easter. The present incumbent commenced services on the first Sunday in June, and has officiated on alternate Sundays since.

At West Rutland, the place of my residence, there are several families of zealous Churchmen, and 12 communicants, one of whom is in a course of preparation for the ministry. They are, at present, connected with Trinity Church, Rutland. At their request, and with the approbation of my Rev. brother, the Rector of that parish, I have officiated for them as often as my health and other engagements would permit. It is hoped that, in the good providence of God, a way may be opened for the permanent establishment of the Church in this place.

Zion Church, Manchester.

The Rev. A. H. Cull, Minister.

Baptisms, 13. (Adults 1, Infants 12.) Communicants, 44. The Minister of this Church would here observe that he has been officiating in Zion Church, Manchester, since the 25th of December, 1837. Previously to his coming to Manchester, the Church had been without a Minister for two or three years, and although he cannot give such an account of the parish as he could wish, yet he desires to be thankful for the small measure of success that has attended his ministry. In addition to the persons already baptized, he would add, that there are several persons more who will present themselves for baptism, as he hopes, preparatory to the holy rite of confirmation. Considerable repairs have also been made on the Church by the Wardens and Vestry, and the Ladies' Sewing Society has done

much to render the inside of the Church comfortable and convenient. They also intend procuring a new communion service. The congregation has been steadily increasing in numbers up to the present time.

St. James' Church, Arlington.

The Rev. John Grigg, Rector.

Baptisms, (Infants 8, Adults 4.) Confirmations, 3. Funerals 7. Marriages 4. Communicants, (added 20,) total 102. Collected for Domestic Missions, \$10. For Foreign Missions, 5. For Sunday School, 5.

St. Peter's Church, Bennington.

The Rev. N. O. Preston, Rector.

Baptisms 5. (Adults 4, Infants 1.) Marriages 2. Funerals 2. Communicants 12. Sunday Scholars 55.

Since April last, the Rector has resided in this parish, and since July, has given his undivided services to promote its prosperity and growth; and with unfeigned gratitude to Almighty God, he may add that his labors have been blessed. The congregation has greatly increased in numbers, while a livelier interest in our solemn services and a more devout attention to the preached word is manifest in our assemblies.

Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.

The Rev. Carlton Chase, Rector.

Baptisms 22, (of whom seven were Adults.) Confirmations 8. Marriages 2. Deaths 8. Communicants about 90. Parish Library upwards of 300 vols. The state and prospects of the Church are good.

St. Paul's Church, Royalton.

The Rev. D. Potter (of the Diocese of Mass.) officiating minister.

Communicants 15. Added 5. Total 20. Burials 1. Marriages 1. I have officiated one half of my time in this parish since last December. During this time, our congregation has considerably increased, and the prospects of the Church are encouraging.

Grace Church, Randolph.

The Rev. D. Potter, officiating Minister.

Communicants 30. Added 1. Removed 1. Total 30. This parish has received half of my services since last December. We have a good congregation, and nothing is wanting but a house of worship, to insure success to the Church in this place.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the next annual Convention shall be holden in St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.

The Committee on nominations reported a list of nominations for the Treasurer of the diocese, the Standing Committee, and Delegates to the General Convention for the ensuing year.

***Whereupon*, after balloting as the Canon directs, it was declared that the Rev. Messrs. Carlton Chase, S. A Crane, John A. Hicks, William H. Hoit, and Charles Fay, were elected the standing Committee of this diocese :**

That, on the part of the Clergy, the Rev. Messrs. Carlton Chase, S. A. Crane, John A. Hicks, and Charles Fay ;—and on the part of the Laity, Messrs. George Cleveland, E. R. Campbell, Artemas Robbins, and Andrew Thompson, were elected, for the present year, Delegates to the General Convention : and

That the Rev. S. A. Crane was re-elected Treasurer.

Messrs. Booth and Squires were allowed leave of absence.

On Motion, *Resolved*, That, hereafter, the expenses of the members of the Standing Committee in the discharge of their official duties shall be paid ; and the Treasurer of the Diocese is hereby directed, on application made to him, to pay such expenses out of any unappropriated money in his hands.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Treasurer of the Diocese is hereby directed to pay out of any unappropriated money in his hands, the expenses for the last year of the Rev. Mr. Hicks, as a member of the standing Committee.

The Rev. Charles Fay was chosen to be the Preacher before the next Convention, and the Rev. W. H. Hoit to be his Substitute.

The Financial Committee reported an estimate of Diocesan debts and expenses, and recommended an assessment of fifty per-cent on the assessment of the Convention of 1837. This recommendation was referred to the Laity, as the Constitution directs, and by them adopted.

The assessment is as follows, viz.

Calvary Church, Berkshire,	\$6,00
Christ Church, Enosburgh,	2,00
Union Church, Montgomery,	4,00
St. John's Church, Highgate,	10,00
Union Church, St. Albans,	10,00
Grace Church, Sheldon,	5,00
Trinity Church, Fairfield,	3,00
Christ Church, Fairfax,	3,00
St. Paul's Church, Burlington,	15,00
Trinity Church, Shelburn,	5,00
St. Paul's Church, Vergennes,	10,00
St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,	10,00
Trinity Church, Rutland,	10,00
St. John's Church, Poultney,	2,00
St. Stephen's Church, Tinmouth,	1,50
St. Paul's Church, Wells,	2,50
Zion Church, Manchester,	5,00
St. James' Church, Arlington,	10,00
St. Peter's Church, Bennington,	2,50
Christ Church, Guilford,	5,00
Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls,	10,00
St. Peter's Church, Brattleborough,	3,00
St. Paul's Church, Windsor,	10,00
St. James' Church, Woodstock,	10,00
Christ Church, Bethel,	4,00
St. Paul's Church, Royalton,	1,50
Grace Church, Randolph,	5,00

\$165,00

The Treasurer of the Diocese reported that at the opening of this Convention there was a balance of thirty dollars in the Treasury, \$30,00

Received during this Convention from sundry parishes, 76,50

Balance in the Treasury at the close of the Convention, \$106,50

It was also reported that sundry assessments of the Convention of 1837 remained unpaid as follows : viz.

Calvary Church, Berkshire,	\$5,50
Christ Church, Enosburgh,	4,00
Union Church, St. Albans,	20,00
Trinity Church, Fairfield,	6,00
St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,	20,00
Trinity Church, Rutland,	10,00
St. Stephen's Church, Tinmouth,	3,00
Christ Church, Guilford,	10,00
St. Peter's Church, Brattleborough,	6,00
Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls,	10,00
St. Paul's Church, Windsor,	20,00
St. James' Church, Woodstock,	20,00
Grace Church, Randolph,	10,00

Balancee unpaid of assessment for 1837, \$144,50

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Secretary is hereby directed to cause 500 copies of the Journal of this Convention to be printed ; and to send eight copies to each Clergyman of the Diocese by mail, unless otherwise instructed by the Clergyman himself.

On motion, *Resolved*, That, after the usual religious services, this Convention shall be adjourned, *sine die*.

Whereupon, after singing, prayers, and the benediction of the Bishop, the Convention was adjourned, *sine die*.

JOHN HENRY HOPKINS, D. D.,

Attest,

S. A. CRANE,

President of the Convention.

Secretary.

APPENDIX I.

LIST OF THE CLERGY

IN THE DIOCESE OF VERMONT.

**The Rt. Rev. JOHN HENRY HOPKINS, D. D. Bishop of
the Diocese, and Rector of St. Paul's Church, Burlington.**

PRESBYTERS.

**The Rev. Carlton Chase, Rector of Immanuel Church, Bellows-
Falls.**

The Rev. S. A. Crane, Rector of Trinity Church, Shelburn.

**The Rev. Jacob W. Diller, Rector of St. Stephen's Church,
Middlebury.**

The Rev. Charles Fay, Rector of St. John's Church, Highgate.

The Rev. Luman Foote, Rector of St. John's Church, Poultney.

The Rev. John Grigg, Rector of St. James' Church, Arlington.

The Rev. John A. Hicks, Rector of Trinity Church, Rutland.

The Rev. Wm. Henry Hoit, Rector of Union Church, St. Albans.

The Rev. Louis McDonald, Rector of Grace Church, Sheldon.

**The Rev. Benjamin C. C. Parker, Rector of St. James' Church,
Woodstock.**

The Rev. Richard Peck, residing in Sheldon.

**The Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston, Rector of St. Peter's Church,
Bennington.**

The Rev. James Sabine, Rector of Christ Church, Bethel.

DEACONS.

The Rev. A. H. Cull, Rector of Zion Church, Manchester.

**The Rev. Josiah Obear, Minister of Calvary Church, Berkshire,
Christ Church, Enosburgh, and Union Church,
Montgomery.**

The Rev. John B. Pratt, Minister of Christ Church, Guilford.

**The Rev. Albin K. Putnam, Minister of St. Paul's Church,
Vergennes.**

The Rev. John T. Sabine.

The Rev. Nathaniel Sprague, officiating in Christ Church, Bethel.

The Rev. O. H. Staples, Minister of St. Paul's Church, Windsor.

The Rev. Zadock Thompson, residing in Burlington.

**The Rev. Dexter Potter, (of the Diocese of Mass.) officiating
in St. Paul's Church, Royalton, and Grace Church,
Randolph.**

**The Rev. Lucius M. Purdy, (of the Diocese of Conn.) offi-
ciating in St. Paul's Church, Wells, and at West-
Rutland.**

**The Rev. John A. Spooner, Deacon, (of the Diocese of New
York,) Minister of Trinity Church, Fairfield.**

Candidates for Holy Orders in the Diocese of Vermont.

Norman W. Camp, Samuel B. Bostwick, Thomas P. Tyler.

APPENDIX II.

LIST OF THE CHURCHES

**In the Diocese of Vermont, with the names of their respective
Delegates to the Convention of 1838.**

Calvary Church, Berkshire,	{ David Coburn,
Christ Church, Enosburgh.	{ Dolphus Paul.
Union Church, Montgomery,	John L. Clapp.
St. John's Church, Highgate,	{ Caleb Mead,
	{ Robert L. Paddock.

St. Luke's Church, Alburg.

Union Church, St. Albans,

Grace Church, Sheldon,

Trinity Church, Fairfield.

Christ Church, Fairfax.

Trinity Church, Milton.

St. Paul's Church, Burlington,

Trinity Church, Shelburn,

St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,

Trinity Church, Rutland.

St. Stephen's Church, Timmouthe.

St. John's Church, Poultney,

St. Paul's Church, Wells,

Trinity Church, Pawlet.

Zion Church, Manchester,

St. James' Church, Arlington,

St. Peter's Church, Bennington,

Christ Church, Guilford.

St. Peter's Church, Brattleborough.

Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.

Union Church, Springfield.

St. John's Church, Perkinsville.

St. Paul's Church, Windsor,

St. James' Church, Woodstock.

Christ Church, Bethel.

St. Paul's Church, Royalton.

Grace Church, Randolph.

St. Andrew's Church, Norwich.

Seth P. Eastman.

Isaac J. Potter.

{ **Phineas Atwater,**
 { **Jesse J. Starr,**
 { **John A. Arthur.**

{ **Bela Chittenden,**
 { **Asa Lyon.**

Cyrus Booth.

Hon. J. Doolittle.

Rollin Marshall.

John C. Hopson, Jr.

John C. Roberts.

John B. Lathrop.

Bulkley Squires.

Luther Foote.

The Church in this Diocese consists of the Bishop, 22 Clergymen, and 33 organized Societies.

1. In the case of a person who is not a member of the
Society, the following conditions must be satisfied:
a. The person must be at least 18 years of age.
b. The person must be a resident of the United States.
c. The person must be a member of the Society for at least
one year.

NOTICE.

The next annual Convention of this Diocese, will be holden in St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury, on the third Wednesday of September, 1839, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

S. A. CRANE,
Secretary.

Form of Certificates for Lay Delegates.

"I hereby certify, that at a meeting of the Vestry of—— Church in —— holden as the Canon directs on Easter Monday in the year of our Lord —— A. B. and C. D. &c. members of the Vestry, were duly elected Delegates to represent the said Parish in the ensuing Convention of the Diocese."

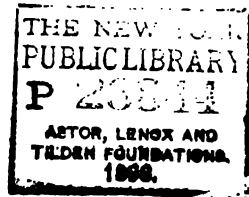
N. M., *Secretary of the Vestry.*

JOURNAL
OF
THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION
OF THE
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN THE
DIOCESE OF VERMONT;
BEING THE SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION SINCE THE FULL
ORGANIZATION OF THE DIOCESE
HELD IN
ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH, MIDDLEBURY,
ON THE
Eighteenth and Nineteenth days of September,
1839.

BURLINGTON:
CHAUNCEY GOODRICH

1839.





JOURNAL.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury, }
Sept. 18th, 1839.

THIS being the day and place appointed for the meeting of the annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Vermont, the Bishop, Clergy, and Lay-Delegates from the Parishes assembled in St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury, and at 9 o'clock, A. M., the Convention was called to order by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese, who took the chair *ex officio*; the Rev. Charles Fay being appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

On calling the list of the Clergy entitled to seats in the Convention, and of the Parishes entitled to representation in the same, a quorum of both Clergy and Laity was found to be present, and the Convention was duly organized.

The Clergy present were the Rt. Rev. John Henry Hopkins, D. D., the Rev. Carlton Chase, D. D., the Rev. Jacob W. Diller, the Rev. Charles Fay, the Rev. Luman Foote, the Rev. Wm. Henry Hoit, the Rev. Josiah Obear, and the Rev. John B. Pratt.

The Lay-Delegates present were Messrs. Robert L. Padlock, George Cleveland, Horatio Seymour, Nahum Parker, Spencer Waldo, Amon Bailey, Almon Hopson, David Dyer, Jesse Hard, John Mellendy, Alexander Fleming, David Child, Ezra Putnam, Truman H. Safford, and Jonathan H. Hubbard.

On Motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee of two be appointed to nominate a Secretary and Treasurer of the Con-

vention. The Committee appointed were the Rev. Dr. Chase and the Rev. Jacob W. Diller ; who nominated the Rev. Win. Henry Hoit for the office of Secretary, and Mr. Nahum Parker for that of Treasurer. The votes of the Convention being given in, as directed by § 5 of Canon XV, the nomination of the Committee was declared to be confirmed.

On Motion, *Resolved*, That Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, not canonically entitled to seats in this Convention, all Clergymen of the Church of England, and all Candidates for Holy Orders in this Church, who may be in town, be, and hereby are, invited to attend the sittings of this Convention.

Whereupon, the Rev. Messrs. Peck, Sprague, Munroe, and Cleveland, of this Diocese, the Rev. Messrs. Lucius M. Purdy, John A. Spooner, and Alfred Stubbs of the Diocese of New York, and Mr. Josiah Perry, a candidate for Holy Orders in the same, appeared and took seats in the Convention.

On Motion, *Resolved*, That this Convention do now adjourn to attend Divine Service, and meet again at half past 3 o'clock, P. M.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury, }
half past 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment. The Rev. Messrs. McDonald, Hicks, and Preston, who were not present in the morning, appeared and took their seats in the Convention. Messrs. Phincas Atwater, William T. Parker, and Edward Sherman, also, presented certificates of their being duly appointed Lay-Delegates to the Convention, and took their seats in the same.


The Rt. Rev. Bishop of the Diocese then delivered his Address.

A D D R E S S .

BELoved FRIENDS AND BRETHREN :

Although the annual Convention of the Clergy and Laity of our young diocese is an occasion which I have always regarded as peculiarly interesting and important, yet at no former period have I thought it so much so as now. Since the time when we last met, I have crossed the ocean in the service of the Church, conversed with many of the greatest, the wisest and the best in the land of our forefathers, beheld the places distinguished in their history, where reformers preached, and martyrs suffered ; seen the whole working of the system which has resulted from the union of Church and State, and returned to my own lot under the favor of a merciful Providence, more thankful than ever for its privileges, and more encouraged and strengthened under the burden of its cares. It will doubtless be expected that I should lay before you a brief statement of the events and consequences of my voyage in the first place, after which will follow the usual account of my episcopal acts since my return, and lastly the specification of whatever may seem most imperatively to demand your attention. The unusual amount of material will, I fear, make an unusual call upon your patience and your time, but I have experienced your kind allowance too often to have any apprehension that it will fail me now.

The topics of chief moment at our last Convention, you, doubtless, remember. They stand on our Journal as bearing reference to the desire expressed in my address that the



Institution which I had been for several years laboring to build up for the purposes of Classical and Theological education, by the name of the Vermont Episcopal Institute, should be taken by the Church at cost, and that the work, too great for my individual means and energies, should be carried forward by our associated strength to the due point of practical efficiency. Besides this, however, I suggested the propriety of a change in the board of Agency appointed by the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, by which the annual Convention of the Diocese might be sure of receiving a regular account of the yearly receipts and expenditures, tendering my services as your agent for this purpose in England, if no better instrumentality could be devised.

The final action of the Convention on both these subjects was unanimous, as it always has been, and, as I trust in God, it always will be, on every important question. The first proposition was referred to the decision of the ensuing Convention, namely, that which is now assembled, and I was commended in the kindest terms to the Mother Church of England, should I think fit to lay my plan before them. The second gave rise to a number of resolutions, in which the Venerable Society was requested to put my own name and that of Rev. Wm. H. Hoit on the board of agency, instead of Bishop Griswold and Rev. Abraham Bronson, and to make it the duty of the board to render an annual account to the Convention. Some other resolutions of thanks to the Venerable Society, and of well merited confidence in the acting Agents of the Board were very properly added; and I was requested to lay the whole before the Venerable Society as the agent of the Convention.

In pursuance of these objects, I lost no time in making the necessary arrangements; and being favored with many letters of introduction, I sailed on the 16th of November, in the Packet ship St. Andrew, and arrived at Liverpool after a prosperous voyage of fifteen days.

Believing, from information received soon after my arrival, that the individuals whom I most desired to see in London, would not be there until the opening of Parliament, in February, I resolved upon crossing the Channel, and spending a part of the intermediate time in Ireland. Accordingly, after enjoying, for a few days, the hospitality of the excellent Bishop of Chester, and Rev. James Haldane Stewart of Liverpool, I proceeded to Dublin, and was very kindly received by the Archbishop and his Clergy. In that city I remained nearly six weeks, preaching twice and sometimes thrice on the Lord's day, and receiving many proofs of the hospitality and cordial attention for which the Irish nation have long been celebrated. It was here that I drew up my statement of the plan designed for the Episcopal Institute. The Archbishop with great liberality and readiness commenced the Subscription, and his example was followed by many of the Clergy and Laity with a kindliness and good feeling which, considering the impoverished state of their own establishment, and their numerous and pressing domestic claims, were certainly greater than could have been expected.

I left Dublin for London the last week in January, and met with a similar reception from the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, and many others, as well of the dignitaries of the Church, as of the nobility and gentry. And here I spent the greater part of the time allotted to my undertaking, believing it more important to be thoroughly acquainted with what could be seen and heard in the great Metropolis, than to gratify my taste by a more agreeable range through the other parts of the kingdom. The great Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and Trinity College, Dublin, were, of course, the subjects of many days most gratifying inspection; to say nothing of Liverpool, Windsor, Eton, and Harrow. But for the most part, London was my home; and a much greater period than I had to spend might have been profitably passed in that vast circle, which gives

energy to the Christian enterprizes of nearly half the civilized world.

The measure of my success, however, in the pecuniary part of my undertaking, was not such as could either highly gratify or seriously disappoint me. The whole sum contributed was about £1050, or \$5000, besides which, above four hundred volumes of valuable books were given to our Library. And I think it due to the liberal character of England to state the reasons, why the contributions were not equal to those collected in former years, for similar objects.

In the first place then, the disturbances on our borders had produced considerable apprehension of war between our respective governments, and it must at once be perceived that nothing could be more unfavorable than this, to the interest which might otherwise be felt in the maintenance of our local institutions.

Besides this, there was a still stronger obstacle found in the multiplication of demands for religious enterprizes of a very recent and peculiar origin. The withdrawing of the Parliamentary grants from the Church in the Canadas had induced the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel to appeal to individual effort through the various Parishes of the Kingdom. The new diocese of Australia, and the increased need of ministerial instruction for the emancipated negroes of the West Indies, together with the condition of the Church in Ireland, had all constituted new and powerful claims upon Christian liberality. But especially the extraordinary impulse given to the building of new Churches throughout the land, and the call thereby produced for ministerial services, along with the necessity which grew more apparent every day, for a vigorous effort in support of National Schools in connexion with the Church—these demanded, in every quarter, the most prompt and active exertion, and a corresponding liberality of expenditure. The advance of Romanism had convinced all the friends of the Establishment that no time should be lost, and the imminent perils

which threatened the Church at home so absorbed the minds of the best and wisest men, that every claim from abroad was of necessity cast into comparative obscurity.

Superadded to these causes, however, there were doubtless others that ought to be mentioned. One was the want of time, a year at least being necessary to the fair trial of such an experiment in a land of strangers. The other was perhaps equally influential, although purely personal to myself, and that was the inferior skill and absolute inexperience of the advocate. If I have any *forte*, the trial satisfied me abundantly that it does not lie in this department of ecclesiastical industry, and hence I do not doubt that notwithstanding the peculiar disadvantages of the time and of the circumstances, there are many of my brethren who might have succeeded better.

Yet while I thus state the reasons of my moderate measure of success, I would by no means have it understood that my application was in any instance treated unkindly. So far from this was the fact, that I experienced great courtesy, much friendship, and not a little zeal, and scarcely remember any instance of a refusal. What was done, was done cheerfully, and often with that peculiar grace of real Christian philanthropy which left an impression not only on the memory, but on the heart.

The other portion of my design, in which I acted as the agent of the Convention, was accomplished with but little difficulty. The Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts gave me a kind and fraternal reception, and acceded with great readiness to the request of the Convention. A power of attorney was made out without any charge, under which the board of Agents has already held their first meeting; and you will receive a regular report accordingly, during our present session.

Although I am sensible that the attempt to particularize the names of those to whose kindness I feel myself more especially indebted, may expose me to the charge of invidious-

ness, yet, on an occasion like this, it would hardly seem excusable to pass them by in silence.

In Liverpool, I was under many obligations to the hospitality and cordial attention of Rev. James Haldane Stewart and his amiable family. In Dublin, Archbishop Whately, Rev. Dr. Singer, Rev. J. H. Todd, and Rev. Lloyd Humphrey of Trinity College, were very kind to me. And I was particularly indebted to the Rev. John Clarke Crossthwaite, Rev. Francis Woodward, Rev. Henry Irwin and his son Rev. Alexander Irwin. The Christian hospitality of Mrs. Col. Vincent, and of Rev. Hamilton Verschoyle, with whom, at different periods, I was a favored guest, will not soon be forgotten. But the list of my Irish friends, I find, is likely to grow beyond reasonable limits. So many names rise up in the task of enumeration, that it is impossible to do justice to them all.

In London, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of London, Winchester, Durham, and Ripon, and (both in Chester and in London) the Bishop of Chester, were very kind and cordial. Amongst the Nobility I have especial reason to remember the Duchess Dowager of Beaufort, the Earl of Galloway, the Marquis of Cholmondely, the Earl of Eldon, Lord Bexley, Lord Ashley, and Lord Teignmouth. Sir Thomas Baring, Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Rear Admiral Sir James Hillyar, Lady Hillyar, and Sir Jeremiah Bryant, have strong claims to my grateful acknowledgment. But to none could I be more bound on the score of kindness and courtesy, than to Joshua Watson, Esq., James Shaw, Esq., Jas. Blair, Esq. M. P., Mr. Long, M. P., J. C. Colquhoun, Esq. M. P. The Messrs. Gillespie, Th. D. Acland, Esq. M. P., Th. Hankey, Esq., John Deacon, Esq., Andrew Hamilton, Esq., David Chapman, Esq., J. Gurney Hoare, Esq., and particularly Henry Ewbank, Esq. in whose hospitable dwelling I was for many weeks a guest. To the Rev. Baptist W. Noel, the Rev. John Jennings, Frebendary of Westminster,

Rev. Dr. Dealtry, Rector of Clapham, Rev. Henry Lindsay, Vicar of Croydon, Rev. A. Campbell, Secretary of the Propagation Society, and Rev. Wm. Murray, Secretary of the Society for Promoting Christian knowledge, I was likewise much indebted. And to the distinguished Rev. Henry Melvill, besides many acts of personal kindness, I was obliged for that which, to an author, is pre-eminently valuable, a most cordial and gratifying introduction of one of my books to the English Public.

But this very imperfect list would be unpardonably defective if it omitted the kindness of George Atkinson, Esq., and the hospitable and friendly attentions of Mrs. Marryat of Wimbledon, some of whose connexions reside amongst ourselves, and who, amidst the opulence and refinement of her station, loses no opportunity of shewing that she is an American in feeling, and—what is far better—a lover of the Church of God. I was also indebted to His Excellency Andrew Stevenson, the Ambassador of the U. S. and his amiable lady, for many acts of friendly courtesy, as well as to S. Jaudon, Esq., Joshua Bates, Esq., and the Messrs. Vaughan. The statement of my London obligations, however, must close with the names of the Messrs. Rivingtons and Gilbert, with whom, as publishers of my book, I was brought into frequent intercourse, and by whose kindness in many ways, I was greatly favored.

At the University of Oxford I was gratified by an invitation to accept the hospitalities of Oriel College, where the Rev. J. Newman, the most eminent amongst the well known writers of the Oxford Tracts, paid me the most kind and constant attention. To the Rev. Vice Chancellor Gilbert, the Rev. Dr. Hawkins, Provost of Oriel, the Rev. Dr. Macbride, Principal of Magdalen Hall, Rev. Dr. Pusey, Canon of Christs' College, Rev. Henry Wilberforce and Rev. W. Churton, Fellow of Brase-Nose College, I was also indebted. And the details of that brief visit—the College Halls, the Libraries, the Chapels, the Church of St. Mary's where

Cranmer openly confessed his fault, the consecrated ground where Latimer and Ridley earned their crown of Martyrdom, and the deeply interesting society in which I enjoyed the brief and precious period,—form in the whole a set of associations so peculiar and so powerful, that the few short days passed on that spot seem to comprehend more than many years of ordinary being.

The University of Cambridge presented, in its turn, great attractions. And here I was most kindly and cordially welcomed by Rev. Wm. Carus, (the successor of the zealous and popular Mr. Simeon.) with whom I had a great deal of highly profitable and pleasing intercourse. The Rev. Vice Chancellor, Master of Emanuel, the Master of Christ's College, the Rev. Th. Thorpe, Dean of Bristol, the Rev. Mr. Perry, Fellow of Corpus Christi College, with many others, were also added to my list of acquaintances, and some of them, I trust, to my list of friends. A gratifying, though brief intercourse with Professor Whewell, one of the distinguished authors of the Bridgewater Treatises, the Rev. Dr. Wordsworth, Master of Trinity College, and his brother the celebrated Poet, was another result of my excursion to Cambridge. And here too, were some details not to be forgotten. The original letters of all the Characters which figured at the period of the Reformation,—the various memorials of the great Sir Isaac Newton, who seemed, if the Pagan idea were admissible, to be the very *genius loci*,—the Thirty nine articles in MSS. draughted both in Latin and English, with the subscriptions of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in their own hands,—the famous King's College Chapel, with a great variety of other objects of interest,—have left a picture on my memory which, although very different in some particulars, forms a worthy counterpart to that of Oxford.

But it is time to close these seducing recollections, and to sum up this imperfect account of my visit to England by the expression of my devout thankfulness to the good Providence of God, which led me to see and hear so much that

was calculated to benefit my future course, to become acquainted with so many whom it is a privilege to know, and to aid, in some small measure, as I humbly trust, in strengthening those ties of esteem and attachment which should bind our respective Churches so closely together. In saying this, I do not mean to claim any personal merit ; for so kindly affectioned is the Church of England to her Daughter in the United States, that a Bishop of our Church needs only his official character to ensure a friendly and cordial welcome, and to call forth those Christian courtesies which seem to give them as much pleasure to offer, as it can give him to receive. Nor does the operation of such an intercourse rest here. I am well satisfied that it has a powerful tendency to bring the two Countries more nearly together, and to dissolve, insensibly, those unjust prejudices which exist more or less amongst the majority of all nations, which for the most part, are the offspring of ignorance, and which, therefore,—especially in the case of England and America, having a common origin, common literature, common laws, and a common language,—we may confidently believe that a thorough mutual acquaintance with each other would soon do away.

I commenced my return voyage in the Steam-Ship Liverpool, on the 13th of June, and, under favor of the Almighty Preserver of men, reached New York on the 30th, and my home and family on the 3d day of July.

Having directed my eldest son to send notices to the Parishes from London some considerable time before, I prepared forthwith to commence my visitation of the diocese, of which I proceed, according to canon, to give you the usual record.

July 7th, being the 6th Sunday after Trinity, I visited Union Church, St. Albans, Rev. Wm. H. Hoit, Rector, preached twice and confirmed four persons.

July 8th, Monday. I visited St. Luke's Church, Alburgh, but no notice having been given, no services could be held.

July 9th, Tuesday, I visited Calvary Church, Berkshire, Rev. Josiah Obear, Minister, and preached in the morning.

cial request, I preached in the House of Worship belonging to the Unitarian Society, which was very kindly tendered to our friends for that purpose.

July 25th, Thursday, I visited Emanuel Church, Bellows Falls, Rev. Dr. Chase, Rector, where I preached twice and confirmed thirteen persons, being assisted in one of the services by Rev. Mr. Livermore, of the Diocese of New Hampshire.

July 26th, Friday, I visited Union Church, Springfield, preached and confirmed three persons. The following day I proceeded to Windsor.

July 28th, being the 9th Sunday after Trinity, I preached at St. Paul's Church, Windsor, Rev. O. H. Staples, Minister, and administered the Communion.

The same day, I proceeded to St. James' Church, Woodstock, Rev. John Grigg, Minister, where I preached and confirmed six persons. On the following day I proceeded to Royalton.

July 30th, Tuesday, I visited St. Paul's Church, Royalton, Rev. N. Sprague, Minister, where I preached and confirmed three persons.

The same day I visited Christ Church, Bethel, under the Ministerial care of Rev. Mr. Sprague, during the absence of the Rector in England, and was gratified to see a large congregation, and thirteen candidates to be confirmed: a good proof that the Minister had been greatly favored in this first year of his office.

July 31st, Wednesday, I visited Grace Church, Randolph, likewise under the care of Rev. Mr. Sprague, where I preached in the new Congregational Meeting-house, and confirmed one person.

September 15th, being the 16th Sunday after Trinity, I visited St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury, where I instituted the Rev. Jacob W. Diller, as Rector, preached twice, delivered with much satisfaction an address to his flourishing Sunday School, and confirmed six persons.

I found the general state of the Churches encouraging.

July 19th, Friday, I visited St. John's Church, Poultney, under the Pastoral care of Rev. Mr. Foote, where I preached and confirmed two persons.

July 20th, Saturday, I visited St. Paul's Church, Wells, where I preached and confirmed three persons, being assisted in the services by Rev. D. Mason of the Diocese of New York. The appointment for this Parish and for that of Pawlet having become confounded together, I was under the necessity of omitting the services at Pawlet, much to my regret; and proceeded to Zion Church, Manchester, where I found myself too late, and made a new engagement for Sunday afternoon, in order to make up for the disappointment.

July 21st, being the 8th Sunday after Trinity, I visited St. James' Church, Arlington, where I preached and administered the Communion. In the afternoon I rode to Manchester to fulfil my appointment of the previous day, where I found a full congregation, preached and confirmed three persons, and returned to Arlington the same evening. I was much pleased to see in Manchester, a great improvement of the Chancel, shewing more correct views of Church order. These last two Parishes were vacant then, but Arlington has been since supplied.

July 22d, Monday, I visited St. Peter's Church, Bennington, the Rev. N. O. Preston, Rector, where I was highly gratified to find that all the difficulties concerning their building were done away, and every thing was going on in prosperity and peace, under the care of their devoted Pastor. I consecrated the Church, preached and confirmed three persons.

July 23d, Tuesday, I visited St. Peter's Church, Brattleboro', and preached in the evening.

July 24th, Wednesday, I visited Christ Church, Guilford, Rev. John B. Pratt, Minister, preached and confirmed six persons. Here too, I was glad to find a considerable improvement in the arrangement of the Chancel, the fruits of Rev. Mr. Foote's zeal, their former Pastor.

In the evening I returned to Brattleboro', where, by spe-

their studies, Mr. Ezekiel Hobert Sayles, and my own eldest son, John Henry Hopkins, which, in addition to Messrs. Bostwick and Tyler, make the present number four. The Rev. Norman Williams Camp, who has been upon the list for the full term of three years, has been admitted to the Holy Order of Deacons in your presence, and Rev. Josiah Obear has been admitted to the Holy Order of Priests, making the total number of the Clergy, including the Bishop, twenty-four, and proving that by the blessing of God the growth of the Church, in our young Diocese, though slow, is sure. From eleven Clergymen at the time of my Consecration in 1832, we have increased to twenty-four. May the Great Head of the Church grant us a proportionate growth in the next seven years, and we shall be thankful.

The serious and important measure left for your decision by the last Convention, and the only one which I design to present to you at this time, involves, according to my judgment, the most indispensable instrumentality for this purpose—a Diocesan Institution, embracing a school for the preparatory education of the children of our Clergy and Laity, and a Theological Seminary for our Candidates for Holy Orders. In England, as well as throughout the Church in the United States, it is an universally admitted principle, that the making adequate provision for these objects stands in the front rank of Christian responsibility, and that no Church can be true to her Redeemer and to herself, which contemns or neglects the duty. With my opinions and practice upon this subject, you are all familiar. To establish such an Institution for this Diocese, I have devoted all my means, and best efforts, for several years; until I can truly say that I have spent and am spent in the service. Thus far, it has been a doubtful, solitary, unaided labor, without any adequate response or sympathy from the Diocese, under the prevailing impression that I had undertaken what was too great either for our ability, or for our wants, and what, therefore,

must fail. But I trust the time is at hand for the diffusion of a far better opinion; notwithstanding the discouraging opposition of such as may have heretofore thought me guilty of the sin of attempting too much,—too sanguine in forming my plans, and too weak in their execution.

It is my intention to withdraw from any future connexion with this institution, except that which is inseparable from my Episcopal office. But the results of my labors in buildings and land, which I offered at cost to the Convention of last year, are still at your service; and something has been done towards providing the means of paying for them, although not all that the case requires. They have cost me considerably more than forty thousand Dollars. The estimate however, has been fixed at \$35,000. The sum collected in England, when my expenses are subtracted, would not exceed \$2,700, but I have resolved to put down the whole without any deduction on that account, at \$5,000, leaving \$30,000 still to be provided for. Of this sum, \$10,000 have been pledged in Burlington, \$1,500 in Highgate, and \$1,500 in St. Albans. I am not authorized to say, indeed, what proportion of the Burlington subscription would be given to the purpose of securing the property to the Church. And yet, from my knowledge of the feelings and principles of those who have entered into the arrangement, I have full confidence in their doing all that could be fairly expected or desired. But supposing that the whole of this \$10,000 were appropriated to the object proposed, together with the \$3,000 promised by Highgate and St. Albans, there would still remain \$17,000, for which we should have to rely upon the aid of those who have ability throughout the other parts of the Diocese, and the wealthier Churches of our large cities in the other States. Under these circumstances it is for you to say, whether you will secure these valuable grounds and buildings to the Diocese, or have them pass forever into other hands.

And now, beloved brethren, having, in all frankness and simplicity, laid the whole question before you, I shall detain you no longer. May the Almighty and Omniscient Redeemer direct your councils, strengthen your hearts, and give us all faith to view the result as the expression of his perfect will, for the final welfare of his Church and the manifestation of his Glory.*

The Bishop's address being concluded, it was, on motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee, to consist of three Clergymen and three Laymen, be appointed to report to this Convention on that part of the Bishop's address relative to the Vermont Episcopal Institute, and recommend such measures as may seem advisable to be adopted in reference to the same.

The Committee appointed were the Rev. Dr. Chase, the Rev. John A. Hicks, and the Rev. Jacob W. Diller of the Clergy, and Messrs. Horatio Seymour, Jonathan H. Hubbard and Alexander Fleming of the Laity.

The Rev. Mr. Preston and Mr. Nahum Parker were appointed a Committee on nominations.

On motion, the parochial reports were then read, and laid upon the Secretary's table for insertion in the Journal.

* For a complete list of the contributions in England, see Appendix.

PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

Union Church, Montgomery.

The Rev. Josiah Obear, Minister.

From the date of the last parochial report until the first of May last, the present Minister officiated one third of his time in this Parish. Since the first of May he has labored in this Parish one half of his time. The Congregation manifest their love for the Church by an attendance upon lay-reading in the absence of the Minister. The state and prospects of the Church are believed to be good.

Communicants added, 7, total number, 66. Confirmations, 3. Marriages, 2. Baptisms, 8. (Infants, 6, Adults, 2.)

Calvary Church, East Berkshire.

The Rev. Josiah Obear, Minister.

From the date of the last parochial report until the first of May last, the present Minister officiated one third of his time in this Parish. Since the first of May he has labored in this Parish one half of his time. The services of the Church, however, are maintained in his absence by lay-reading. The general condition of the congregation does not present any topic for especial observation.

Communicants, added, 1, in all, 36. Confirmed, 1. Baptisms, 9. Marriages, 4. Funerals, 3.

Christ Church, Enosburgh.

The Rev. Josiah Obear, reports that his connexion with this Church closed on the first of May last. During his con-

nexion with it, the congregation had made preparation for building a church edifice, which is now nearly completed. They had also made arrangements for the support of a Minister whose time should be wholly devoted to the Parish. He has no other official acts to report than the performance of the ordinary public services of the Church, excepting one marriage.

The Rev. Moore Bingham, who is the present Rector, reports as follows :

Communicants, (added, 2.) 37. Baptisms, 1. Sunday School, 20. Confirmations, 5.

The present Minister commenced his services in this parish on the 5th of May last, and has devoted to it his whole time, with the exception of two or three Sundays, when he has officiated for a new Parish in West Berkshire. The congregation is small and assembles in a private house. A new house of worship is in progress of erection, to be completed in a few weeks. Its completion and accommodations, it is hoped, will conduce to the increase of the congregation and prosperity of the Parish.

Grace Church, Sheldon.

The Rev. Louis McDonald, Rector.

Baptisms, Infants 7, Adults, 1. Confirmed, 8. Funerals, 4. The Rector has also attended one funeral at Enosburgh, and two in Fairfield. Money has been collected for the purchase of a surplice and a proper service for the Communion. Amongst the blessings of the Almighty bestowed upon this parish, a more than ordinary seriousness is devoutly and gratefully acknowledged.

St. John's Church, Highgate.

The Rev. Charles Fay, Rector.

Baptisms, 7. (Adults, 1. Infants, 6.) Confirmations, 17. Marriages, 2. Funerals, 7. Communicants, 60.

The state and prospects of the Church are good. The

Rector has within a few months established a Parish school, which promises much benefit to the cause of education and religion. An eligible house for the use of the Rector has also been purchased, so that on the whole the condition of the Parish is very encouraging.

Union Church, St. Albans.

The Rev. Wm. Henry Hoit, Rector.

Baptisms, 10. (Adults, 2. Children, 8.) Confirmations, 4. Marriages, 2. Burials, 7. Communicants added, 6,—removed, 2.

Christ Church, Fairfax.

The Rev. John Alden Spooner, Minister.

Baptisms—9, Children. Funerals, 1. The number of communicants I cannot state, as there is no parish record. The law (*Canon 10, sec. 3.*) is known.

Trinity Church, Fairfield.

The Rev. John Alden Spooner, Minister.

Baptisms,—Adults, 2, Children, 31, total 33. Funerals, 2. Confirmations, 3. Communicants, added 5; the total number cannot be justly stated, as there is no parish record. The present Minister has had charge of the parishes of Fairfield and Fairfax between ten and eleven months. In that time, (the services in his parishes being regularly sustained,) he has made also several excursions for services in the adjoining towns; where the ministrations of the Church, though not established, have been well received and are highly valued. In two cases, for the funeral office, he has been called twenty miles to give, to isolated families of Episcopalians, the still remembered and preferred burial service of the Church. And in another, the same distance, to yield to a dying churchman the ardently desired consolations of the Apostolic ministry.

St. Paul's Church, Burlington.

The Rt. Rev. John Henry Hopkins, D. D., Rector.

Baptisms, 8 Infants. Marriages, 2. Funerals, 3. Communicants, considerably less, by removals and death, than at the time of the last report. Present number about 100.

The absence of the Rector in Europe, during which time the Parish was left in the care of Rev. Silas A. Crane, and the occupancy of his time since his return last July, in visiting the Diocese and other matters, have concurred in the producing a comparatively unsatisfactory report of the state of this Church. It is to be remembered, however, that there have been in former years, three schools connected with it, which have now ceased to exist. A large male school, under the care of the Rector, a female school under the care of Rev. Silas A. Crane, who has lately removed to the neighborhood of St. Louis, and a school for the children of the poor, under the care of a worthy lady who has removed to Connecticut,—all these worshipped at the Church, and amongst them reckoned at least forty communicants two years ago, of which none remain at this day in the parish of St. Paul's, although they are scattered abroad, and, doubtless doing good, in other parts of the Vineyard. In all substantial respects the chief strength of the Church is unimpaired, and will be manifested, it is believed, in a steady and increasing growth, hereafter.

St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.

The Rev. N. W. Munroe, Rector.

Baptisms.—Infants, 8. Adults, 8. Confirmed, 7. Communicants, added 8, present number, 40. Marriages, 2. Burials, 2. Sunday School-scholars, 40.

The kindness of Rev. Z. Thompson in officiating for this Church, while deprived of the services of a regular Pastor, during a large portion of the year past, is deservedly held in grateful remembrance by all, capable of appreciating modest piety and worth, who enjoyed his ministrations.

The present Rector, having commenced his labors in the Parish with the present month, relies on others chiefly for any information that he is able to impart concerning its past and present condition.

On inspecting its Records, he finds that since its establishment, the loss in the number of communicants, by deaths and removals, is nearly or quite equal to the whole present number of the same.—The loss thus sustained, of many of its firmest friends and supporters,—the want, for some time past, of a settled Minister,—and various discouraging circumstances during the past and former years, appear not a little to have retarded its growth and prosperity.

Still it is believed that most of this little flock continue firm in their attachment to the doctrines, discipline, and worship of the Church ; and are willing to impart cheerfully of their substance, according to their ability, for their maintenance and advancement.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.

The Rev. J. W. Diller, Rector.

Baptisms, (Adult, 1. Infants. 4.) total 5. Marriages, 2. Confirmed, 6. Funerals, 7. Communicants, added 5, withdrawn 2, removed 11, died 1, total 75.

With the exception of the above, the account of services performed varies but little from that reported last year ;—unless mention be made of the holding of weekly meetings at the houses of the Parishioners in rotation. The congregation increases slowly, and the Rector is much encouraged by his prospects of usefulness. He has stricken from the list of Communicants the names of some of whose removal he was not aware at the last Convention. During the past year the Congregation has purchased a Parsonage House, have given about \$40 to the Sunday School, (which has nearly doubled its numbers,) and have cheerfully contributed to other objects connected with the welfare of the Church.

St. Thomas' Church, Brandon.

Edward Sherman, Lay-Reader.

Confirmations, 5. Baptisms, 5. (2 Adults and 3 Infants.) Communicants, 11.

The service of the Church has been sustained by Lay-Reading, with the exception of a visit from two or three Clergymen who have favored us with their services.

Trinity Church, Rutland.

The Rev. John A. Hicks, Rector.

Since his last report the Rector has celebrated 2 marriages,—attended 2 funerals,—and baptized 15 children. One person has been added to the list of Communicants, and 3 have removed,—leaving the present number 44. The Rector has continued his usual labors, and though under many discouragements, yet not without some cheering prospects, to stimulate him to renewed exertion.

St. John's Church, Poultney.

The Rev. Luman Foote, Rector.

The Rector has labored in this Parish three fourths of the time during the past year,—the residue having been devoted to St. Stephen's Parish, Tinmouth.

Baptisms,—Adults, 2, Children, 7. Confirmed, 2. Communicants, 41,—added 5, removed 3. Funerals 3.

St. Stephen's Church, Tinmouth.

The Rev. Luman Foote, Rector.

Baptisms,—Adults, 3, Child, 1. Confirmed, 3. Number of Communicants, 16,—added 4. Funeral, 1.

The Rector has labored in this Parish one fourth of the time for the past year.

St. Paul's Church, Wells.

The Rev. Lucius M. Purdy. (of the Diocese of New York,) officiating Minister.

Families, 14. Communicants,—removed, 6, added, 5, present number, 25. Baptisms,—Adult, 1, Infants, 6. Burial, 1. Confirmations, 3.

Since the Last Convention of the Diocese, I have officiated in this Parish one half of the time. The Parish has suffered much from removals. Efforts have been made to erect a new Church, and a considerable sum has been subscribed; but the prosecution of the work has been suspended, for the present, on account of local embarrassments. It is hoped that the little flock will yet take courage, and persevere in the good work of building up the Church.

St. Peter's Church, Bennington.

The Rev. N. O. Preston, Rector.

Baptism, 1 Adult. Confirmations, 3. Communicants, 14, removal, 1. Marriage, 1. Burials, 4. Sunday School scholars, 45.

There is nothing of particular interest either in the condition or prospects of my congregation. The attendance at Church is about as usual, and the accustomed seriousness and solemnity in the house of God are not abated. Could I witness that fruit in the holy lives and conversation of my people which I often fondly anticipate there, I should report St. Peter's Church, Bennington, as in a highly flourishing state.

Christ Church, Guilford.

The Rev. John B. Pratt, Minister.

The Rev. Luman Foote resigned his connexion with this Parish in April, 1838. The present Minister succeeded him in July following.

Since the last Convention I have to report:—Baptisms, 7,—Adults, 2, Children, 5. Confirmations, 6. Marriages, 3. Burials, 3. Communicants,—added, 8,—removed, 2,—present number, (not including those belonging to St. Peter's Church, Brattleboro', as last reported,) 38.

St. Peter's Church, Brattleboro'.

The Rev. John B. Pratt reports as follows :

Since the organization of this Parish, it enjoyed for a short time the services of Rev. D. S. Devens, now of the Diocese of Massachusetts ; subsequently, during a portion of the time for a few months, those of Rev. Luman Foote, then resident Rector of Christ Church, Guilford. Since the discontinuance of Rev. Mr. Foote's services the parish has been destitute of ministerial supervision. During the last year, however, the above-named has sometimes holden a Sunday-evening service there,—has also baptized three children, solemnized one marriage, and attended one funeral.

The report of the Parish up to the present time is as follows :—Baptisms, 4 children. Confirmations, 3. Marriages, 3. Burials, 1. Communicants, 9. Two or three persons are awaiting Confirmation.

Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.

The Rev. Carlton Chase, D. D., Rector.

There have been 7 Adults and 8 children (=15) baptized; 13 persons confirmed, 4 couples married, and 5 persons have died. There are 104 Communicants. This Church has never been in a condition of greater prosperity than at the present time. We have recently erected adjacent to the Church a commodious building to be used for a Lecture room and other purposes. A number of ladies still pursue their useful labors in the maintenance of a well attended Sunday School.

St. Paul's Church, Windsor.

The Rev. O. H. Staples, Minister.

Since our last annual Convention, there have been in this Parish 4 Baptisms,—no Marriages, Confirmations, or Burials. Number of Communicants, 36. Our Sunday School, numbering about 30 Scholars and 8 Teachers, is continued

throughout the year. In connexion with it is a respectable library, to which considerable additions have recently been made.

During the year the Ladies of the Society have completed a fund of \$1,000, from the avails of their labor; the annual interest of which is to be appropriated to the support of their Clergyman.

A Lady of the Society has, also, generously presented to the Church an excellent Bell, which was greatly needed.

St. James' Church, Woodstock.

The Rev. John Grigg, Rector.

The present Rector took charge of this Parish upon the first day of May last, and has performed no other duties than those of the public services of the Church. He is pleased to report that the congregation is respectably large and increasing,—the Sunday School is in a favorable condition,—and the spiritual prospects of the parish bid fair to realize the anxious Pastor's hopes.

Communicants, about 50. Sunday School scholars, 50, Teachers, 10.

The Ladies have lately with considerable liberality painted and improved the interior of the Church Building, and hopes are entertained that a Rectory will be procured for the residence of the Clergyman.

St. Paul's Church, Royalton.

The Rev. Nathaniel Sprague, assistant Minister.

Communicants,—added, 4, removed, 5, total, 19. Confirmed, 3.

The Rev. D. Potter ministered one half of the time in this Parish during the past year until about the middle of February, when he left. I commenced my services in that place about a month after, and have continued there half the time since. The Church is gaining slowly and surely.

They consider themselves much indebted to the Rev. B. C. C. Parker, of Woodstock, for many ministerial and other friendly services, which they hold in grateful remembrance.

Christ Church, Bethel.

The Rev. Nathaniel Sprague, assistant Minister.

Baptisms,—Infant, 1, Adult, 1. Marriages, 2. Communicants,—removed, 2, added, 13. Confirmed, 13.

The Rector, the Rev. James Sabine, has been absent the past year in Europe. I have officiated in his parish since I received orders, until about the middle of July last, about half the time. The Rector's return since that time has been daily expected.

The spiritual affairs of the Church in this Parish are prosperous, and promise still further fruit to the glory of our adorable Redeemer.

The Committee on nominations reported the names of Messrs. Paddock, Bailey, and Safford for the financial Committee, which nomination was confirmed by the Convention.

On motion, The Convention adjourned to meet again in this place to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

St. Stephen's Church, }
Sept. 19th, 9 o'clock, A. M. }

The Convention met according to adjournment.

The reports of the temporal condition of the Parishes, required by Article 7th of the Constitution, were presented by the delegates of the several Parishes respectively.

Messrs. George T. Hodges and Jesse Gove presented certificates of their being duly appointed Lay-Delegates, and took their seats in the Convention accordingly.

The committee on nominations made the following report, viz :—

For Standing Committee, the Rev. Dr. Chase, and the Rev. Messrs. John A. Hicks, Charles Fay, Wm. H. Hoit, and Jacob W. Diller.

For Delegates to the General Convention, the Rev. Dr. Chase, and the Rev. Messrs. John A. Hicks, Charles Fay, and Wm. Henry Hoit, on the part of the Clergy ;—and Messrs. George Cleveland, E. R. Campbell, Artemas Robbins, and George T. Hodges, on the part of the Laity.

For Preacher before the next Convention, the Rev. Wm. Henry Hoit, the Rev. J. W. Diller to be his substitute.

Whereupon, after balloting as the Canon directs, these several nominations were respectively confirmed.

The Committee to whom was referred that portion of the Bishop's address relating to the Vermont Episcopal Institute, reported the following resolutions to the Convention for their adoption, viz :—

1. *Resolved*, That this Convention fully appreciate the sacred obligation resting on the Church of Christ, to sustain, by every practicable effort, the interests of education, and cordially respond to the sentiments of their Diocesan upon the subject.

2. *Resolved*, That this Convention think it highly desirable that the buildings, and grounds attached to them, known by the name of the Vermont Episcopal Institute, become the property of the Church in this Diocese as proposed by their Bishop, provided sufficient funds can be raised by voluntary subscriptions, or otherwise, for that purpose : and that a Committee of five be appointed to ascertain the situation of the property, the further sum necessary to be raised in order to obtain the title to it, and, if the sum needed be raised, to see that the title be vested in such persons as they may select, to be held in trust for the Church in this Diocese, subject to the direction and control of this Convention, until an act of incorporation may be procured and the institution placed upon a more permanent foundation.

3. *Resolved*, That the said Committee, and every clergyman belonging to this Diocese, and all the parish vestries of the same, be requested, with the least practicable delay, to ascertain the amount of subscriptions which may be relied upon, within their respective circles of action : and that the Bishop be requested to use his efforts amongst our sister Dioceses to obtain such further aid as may be required to raise the necessary sum.

The report of the Committee was accepted, and the resolutions unanimously adopted.

The Committee appointed, in accordance with the second resolution, were George B. Shaw, Esq., of Burlington, Charles Linsley, Esq., of Middlebury, Henry F. Green, Esq., of Bel lows Falls, Abel Houghton, Esq., of St. Albans, and the Hon. Heman Allen, of Highgate.

The following resolution was presented by Alexander Fleming, Esq., and, on motion, was unanimously adopted by the Convention.

Resolved, That this Convention have heard with much interest their Bishop's statement of the kindness, hospitality, and liberality, which he received during his recent visit to the united Churches of England and Ireland, and return their cordial acknowledgments to those venerable Churches for the same.

The following resolution was presented by George T. Hodges, Esq., and, on motion, was unanimously adopted by the Convention.

Resolved, That this Convention request their Bishop to communicate to the most Reverend the Archbishop of Canterbury, as President of the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, their lively sense of the prompt kindness with which their late application was complied with by the Society.

The Rev. Dr. Chase submitted the following resolution to the Convention. to be acted upon at its next annual meeting.

Resolved, That the words. " who shall always be elected

from among themselves," in the last sentence of section 3d of Canon 14th, be stricken out.

Also,—That the words, "in which case the Wardens and Vestry are all to attend," at the end of the penultimate sentence of section 2d of Canon 15th, be stricken out.

Also,—That after the words, "Provided always that," in the last sentence of said section 2d of Canon 15th, these words be inserted, "no unbaptized person."

The resolution was laid upon the table, to be taken up for consideration at the next annual Convention of the Diocese.

A report from the Treasurer of the Vermont Agency of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts was presented and read by the Secretary, and, on motion, was referred to the Board of Agents, that such parts of it be printed in the Journal as, in their discretion, may seem advisable.

In accordance with the foregoing action of the Convention the following extracts from the report are given.

"The nominal amount of rents arising from the land in the State, as taken from the Leases in the Treasurer's Office, and from the last return of one or two of the County Agents whose Leases have not come to hand, is \$2871,65. It is to be observed that this is the nominal amount alone. This amount is not received every year, because, as every agent well knows, the rents are not punctually paid when due. One tenant may pay this year punctually, but the next he may not. Five *per cent.* is allowed for collection to the County agents, besides extra charges for professional services."

"The amount of rents arising from the Society's Lands in each County is as follows.

Washington County,	\$137
Bennington "	222 .
Franklin "	212
Caledonia "	112
Addison "	400
Rutland "	388

Chittenden County,	449
Windham “	277
Orange “	246
Windsor “	426
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	\$2869.

“The appropriations made by the General Agents the present year amount to \$2058. The Agency are indebted to their attorneys, who have rendered their services and have advanced their money in the several suits which have been and are now pending in the Circuit Court of the United States for this circuit, about twenty-five hundred dollars. The claim made against them by the administratrix of Phineas Smith, Esq., late of Rutland, deceased, is eight hundred and one dollars. Judge Hubbard’s demand against us is probably not far from \$1600. The few suits (two or three) now pending in Court, the subscriber has employed the Hon. Samuel S. Phelps to prosecute to their final termination.”

(Signed)

D. WOOSTER, *Treasurer.*

The Rev. Dr. Chase and Jesse Gove, Esq., were appointed a Committee to designate the place of meeting for the next annual Convention of the Diocese.

Mr. Atwater, at his request, was excused from further attendance upon the sessions of the Convention.

On motion, the Convention adjourned to meet again in this place at half past 2 o’clock. P. M.

St. Stephen’s Church, }
half past 2 o’clock, P. M. }

The Convention met according to adjournment.

On motion, it was directed by the Convention that Canon 4th of the General Convention of 1838, be appended to the Journal.

The Committee appointed to designate the place of meeting for the next annual Convention, reported that they had

fixed upon St. James' Church, Woodstock, as the place, the Convention to assemble at 9 o'clock, A. M., of the appointed day. This report, upon motion, was accepted, and the place and time recommended were adopted.

The Financial Committee reported the following assessments upon the several Parishes in the Diocese, to meet the debts and current expenses of the year, viz :—

Calvary Church, Berkshire,	\$6,00
Christ Church, Enosburgh,	2,00
Union Church, Montgomery,	4,00
St. John's Church, Highgate,	10,00
Union Church, St. Albans,	10,00
Grace Church, Sheldon,	5,00
Trinity Church, Fairfield,	3,00
Christ Church, Fairfax,	2,00
St. Paul's Church, Burlington,	15,00
Trinity Church, Shelburne,	5,00
St. Paul's Church, Vergennes,	10,00
St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,	10,00
Trinity Church, Rutland,	10,00
St. John's Church, Poultney,	2,50
St. Stephen's Church, Tinmouth,	1,50
St. Paul's Church, Wells,	2,50
Zion Church, Manchester,	5,00
St. James' Church, Arlington,	10,00
St. Peter's Church, Bennington,	2,50
Christ Church, Guilford,	5,00
Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls,	10,00
St. Peter's Church, Brattleboro',	3,00
St. Paul's Church, Windsor,	10,00
St. James' Church, Woodstock,	10,00
Christ Church, Bethel,	4,00
St. Paul's Church, Royalton,	2,00
Grace Church, Randolph,	4,00
St. Thomas' Church, Brandon,	2,00

\$166,00.

This report was referred to the Laity, as the Constitution directs, and by them adopted.

The Treasurer was directed to communicate to the Vestries of such churches as are deficient in the payment of past assessments, the amount of their deficiencies, and request their attention to the same.

The following assessments still remain unpaid, viz :—

Of 1837,	Calvary Church, Berkshire,	\$5,50
	Christ Church, Enosburgh,	4,00
	Trinity Church, Fairfield,	6,00
	St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,	10,00
	Christ Church, Guilford,	10,00
	St. Peter's Church, Brattleboro',	6,00
	St. Paul's Church, Windsor,	20,00
	St. James' Church, Woodstock,	20,00
	Grace Church, Randolph,	10,00
		<hr/>
		\$91,50.

Of 1838,	Calvary Church, Berkshire,	\$6,00
	Christ Church, Enosburgh,	2,00
	Grace Church, Sheldon,	5,00
	Trinity Church, Fairfield,	3,00
	St. James' Church, Arlington,	10,00
	Christ Church, Guilford,	5,00
	St. Paul's Church, Windsor,	10,00
	St. James' Church, Woodstock,	10,00
	Grace Church, Randolph,	5,00
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		\$56,00.

On motion, *Resolved*. That the Secretary is hereby directed to cause 500 copies of the Journal of this Convention to be printed; and to send (in addition to the number as directed in Canon 16th) six copies to each Clergyman of the Diocese by mail, unless otherwise instructed by the Clergyman himself.

On motion; *Resolved*, That, after the usual religious services, this Convention shall be adjourned, *sine die*.

Whereupon, after singing, prayers, and the benediction of the Bishop, the Convention was adjourned, *sine die*.

JOHN HENRY HOPKINS, D. D.,
President of the Convention.

Attest,

WM. HENRY HOIT,
Secretary.

LIST OF THE CLERGY IN THE DIOCESE OF VERMONT.

The Rt. Rev. JOHN HENRY HOPKINS, D. D.,
*Bishop of the Diocese, and Rector of St. Paul's
Church, Burlington.*

PRESBYTERS.

The Rev. Moore Bingham,
Rector of Christ Church, Enosburgh.

The Rev. Carlton Chace, D. D.,
Rector of Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls.

The Rev. Charles Cleveland,

The Rev. J. W. Diller,
Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.

The Rev. Charles Fay,
Rector of St. John's Church, Highgate.

The Rev. Luman Foote,
Rector of St. John's Church, Poultney and St. Stephen's Church, Tinnmouth.

The Rev. John Grigg,
Rector of St. James' Church, Woodstock.

- The Rev. Anson B. Hard,
Rector of St. James' Church Arlington.
- The Rev. John A. Hicks,
Rector of Trinity Church, Rutland.
- The Rev. Wm. Henry Hoit,
Rector of Union Church, St. Albans.
- The Rev. Louis McDonald,
Rector of Grace Church, Sheldon.
- The Rev. N. W. Munroe,
Rector of St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.
- The Rev. Josiah Obear,
*Rector of Calvary Church, East Berkshire, and
Union Church, Montgomery.*
- The Rev. B. C. C. Parker,
Residing at Woodstock.
- The Rev. Richard Peck,
Residing at Sheldon.
- The Rev. N. O. Preston,
Rector of St. Peter's Church, Bennington.
- The Rev. Jas. Sabine,
Rector of Christ Church, Bethel.

DEACONS.

- The Rev. Norman Williams Camp,
Residing at Derby.
- The Rev. John B. Pratt,
Minister of Christ Church, Guilford.
- The Rev. Nathaniel Sprague,
*Assistant Minister of St. Paul's Church, Royalton,
and Christ Church, Bethel.*
- The Rev. O. H. Staples,
Minister of St. Paul's Church, Windsor.
- The Rev. Zadock Thompson,
Residing at Burlington.
- The Rev. John T. Sabine.

The Rev. Lucius M. Purdy,
*(Of the Diocese of New York,) officiating in St.
 Paul's Church, Wells.*

The Rev. John Alden Spooner,
*Of the same Diocese, officiating in Trinity Church,
 Fairfield.*

Candidates for Holy Orders in the Diocese of Vermont.

Samuel B. Bostwick, Thomas P. Tyler, Ezekiel Hobart
 Sayles, and John Henry Hopkins, Jr.

LIST OF LAY-DELEGATES.

St. John's Church, Highgate,	Robert L. Paddock,
St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,	{ Geo. Cleveland,
	{ Horatio Seymour,
	{ Nahum Parker.
St. Stephen's Church, Tinnmouth,	Spencer Waldo.
St. John's Church, Poultney,	Amon Bailey.
St. Paul's Church, Wells,	Almon Hopson.
Zion Church, Manchester,	{ David Dyer,
	{ Jesse Hard.
Christ Church, Guilford,	John Mellendy.
Emmanuel Church, Bellows Falls,	Alexander Fleming.
Christ Church, Bethel,	{ David Child,
	{ Ezra Putnam.
St. Paul's Church, Royalton,	Truman H. Safford.
St. Paul's Church, Windsor,	Jona. H. Hubbard.
St. Paul's Church, Burlington,	Phineas Atwater.
St. Paul's Church, Vergennes,	Wm. T. Parker.
St. Thomas' Church, Brandon,	Edward Sherman.
Trinity Church, Rutland,	{ Geo. T. Hodges,
	{ Jesse Gove.

APPENDIX.

SOME alterations having been made by the General Convention on the subject of candidates for Holy Orders, since the publication of the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese, the present General Canon is here appended, according to the resolution of the Convention on page 34.

CANON IV.

Of Candidates for Orders.

[Former Canons on this subject were the sixth of 1795; the seventh of 1804; the seventh of 1808; the eighth of 1820; the first of 1823; the Canon of 1826, and the ninth Canon of 1832.]

SECT. 1. Every person who desires to become a Candidate for Orders in this Church shall, in the first instance, give notice of his intention to the Bishop, or, if there be no Bishop, to such body as the Church in the Diocese in which he intends to apply, may appoint, or, where no appointment is made, to the President of the Standing Committee.

SECT. 2. No person shall be considered as a Candidate for Orders in this Church, unless he shall have produced to the Bishop, to whom he intends to apply for Orders, a Certificate from the Standing Committee of the Diocese of the said Bishop, that from personal knowledge, or from testimonials laid before them, they believe that he is pious, sober, and honest; that he is attached to the doctrines, discipline, and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and a Communicant of the same; and, in their opinion, possesses such qualifications, as will render him apt and meet to exercise the ministry to the glory of God and the edifying of the Church. And when the Standing Committee do not certify as above,

from personal knowledge, the testimonials laid before them shall be of the same purport, and as full as the certificate above required, and shall be signed at least by one Presbyter, and four respectable Laymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

SECT. 3. In addition to the above testimonials, the person wishing to become a Candidate must lay before the Standing Committee a satisfactory Diploma, or a Certificate from the instructor or instructors of some approved Literary Institution, which Certificate must state what have been his studies, and the extent of his improvement in them ; or a Certificate from two Presbyters, appointed by the ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese, to examine him, of his possessing such Academical Learning, as may enable him to enter advantageously on a course of Theology.

SECT. 4. When a person applying to be admitted a Candidate, wishes the knowledge of the Latin, Greek, and Hebrew languages, and other branches of learning not strictly ecclesiastical, to be dispensed with, the Standing Committee shall not recommend him as a Candidate, until he has laid before them a testimonial, signed by at least two Presbyters of this Church, stating, that in their opinion, he possesses extraordinary strength of natural understanding, a peculiar aptitude to teach, and a large share of prudence ; and the Bishop, with the consent of the Standing Committee, shall have granted said dispensation. This dispensation shall not be granted to any person under twenty-seven years of age, nor shall any person be ordained under such dispensation, until he shall have attained thirty years of age. And in regard to the knowledge of the Hebrew language in all cases in these Canons, the Bishop shall have the sole discretion of dispensation, without reference to the age of the Candidate, as mentioned in this section.

SECT. 5. With this enumeration of qualifications it ought to be made known to the Candidate, that the Church expects of him, what can never be brought to the test of any outward

standard—an inward fear and worship of **ALMIGHTY GOD**; a love of Religion and a sensibility to its holy influence; a habit of devout affection; and, in short, a cultivation of all those graces which are called in Scripture the fruits of the Spirit, and by which alone his sacred influences can be manifested.

SECT. 6. The requisition of this Canon being fulfilled, the Bishop may admit the person as a Candidate for Orders, and shall record the same in a book to be kept for that purpose, and notify the Candidate of such record. And in any Diocese where there is no Bishop, the Standing Committee may, on the same conditions, admit the person as a Candidate, and shall make record and notification in the same manner.

SECT. 7. If, after obtaining the Canonical Testimonials from the Standing Committee, the person be admitted as a Candidate by the Bishop, or, if there be no Bishop, by the Standing Committee, he shall remain a Candidate for the term of three years before his ordination, unless the Bishop, with the consent of the Standing Committee, shall deem it expedient to ordain the Candidate after the expiration of a shorter period, not less than one year.

SECT. 8. A Candidate for Orders may, on letters of dismission from the Bishop or Standing Committee of the Diocese in which he was admitted a Candidate, be ordained by any Bishop of this Church. And if there be a Bishop within the Diocese where the Candidate resides, he shall apply to no other Bishop for ordination without the permission of the former.

SECT. 9. If any Candidate for Orders shall not, within three years after his admission, apply to have his first and second examinations held, as hereafter prescribed, or if he shall not, within five years from his admission, apply to have his third and fourth examinations held, (unless the Bishop, for satisfactory reasons to him assigned, shall allow him further time,) the said person shall, in either case, cease to be a Candidate.

SECT. 10. A person desirous of becoming a Candidate for

Holy Orders, shall apply to the Bishop or ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese in which he resides, unless the said Bishop or ecclesiastical authority shall give their consent to his application in some other Diocese. Candidates shall not change their Canonical residence but for *bona fide* causes, requiring the same, to be judged of by the Bishop or ecclesiastical authority; and they shall not be dismissed from the Dioceses in which they were admitted, or to which they have been duly transferred, for the convenience of attending any Theological or other Seminary.

SECT. 11. The ninth Canon of 1832 is hereby repealed.

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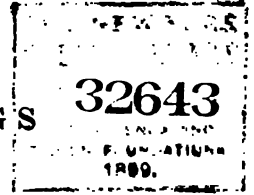
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IN THE
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JOURNAL
OF
THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
FIFTIETH ANNUAL CONVENTION
OF THE
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN THE
DIOCESE OF VERMONT;
BEING THE EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVENTION SINCE THE FULL
ORGANIZATION OF THE DIOCESE:
HELD IN
ST. JAMES' CHURCH, WOODSTOCK,
ON THE
Sixteenth and Seventeenth days of September,
1840.



BURLINGTON:
CHAUNCEY GOODRICH.

1840.



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JOURNAL.

St. James' Church, Woodstock, }
September 16th, 1840. }

THIS being the day and place appointed for the meeting of the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Vermont, the Bishop, Clergy, and Lay-Delegates from the Parishes assembled in St. James' Church, Woodstock, and at 9 o'clock, A. M., the Convention was called to order by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese, who took the chair *ex-officio*; the Rev. Wm. Henry Hoit, being Secretary.

On calling the list of the Clergy entitled to seats in the Convention, and of the Parishes entitled to representation in the same, a quorum of both Clergy and Laity was found to be present, and the Convention was duly organized.

The Clergy present were the Rt. Rev. John Henry Hopkins, D. D., the Rev. Carlton Chase, D. D., and the Rev. Messrs. Norman W. Camp, Jacob W. Diller, Charles Fay, John A. Hicks, Wm. Henry Hoit, Louis M'Donald, Nathan W. Munroe, Josiah Obear, John B. Pratt, James Sabine, John T. Sabine, Nathaniel Sprague, and Oliver H. Staples.

The Lay-Delegates present were Messrs. Phineas Atwater, Charles Backus, Amon Bailey, Edward Baker, William Benedict, Warner Brown, Harmon Canfield, Joseph A. Denison, Isaac Doolittle, Zadock Hard, Lyman Hawley, Porter Howe, Jonathan H. Hubbard, James M'Donald, Nahum Parker, John A. Pratt, Artemas Robbins, Jonathan C. Thrall, and Amos Warren.

On motion, *resolved*, that Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, not canonically entitled to seats in this Convention, and all Candidates for Holy Orders in this Church, who may be present, be, and hereby are, invited to attend the sittings of the Convention.

Whereupon, the Rev. Messrs. Joel Clap, Benjamin C. C. Parker, and Josiah Perry of this Diocese ; the Rev. Messrs. Henry Blackaller and David S. Devens of the Diocese of Massachusetts ; the Rev. Edward Livermore of the Diocese of New Hampshire ; and Mr. Ezekiel H. Sayles, a Candidate for Holy Orders in this Diocese, appeared and took seats in the Convention.

On motion, *resolved*, That this Convention do now adjourn to attend Divine Service, and meet again at 3 o'clock, P. M.

St. James' Church, Woodstock, }
3 o'clock, P. M., of the same day. }

The Convention met according to adjournment. The Rev. Messrs. Charles Cleveland and Nathaniel O. Preston, who were not present in the morning, appeared and took their seats in the Convention. Messrs. Heman Chittenden, Paul Flinn, Hial Hatch, and Ezra Putnam, also, presented certificates of their being duly appointed Lay-Delegates to the Convention, and took their seats in the same. The Convention then proceeded to make choice of Secretary and Treasurer, and after balloting, as the Canon directs, the Rev. Wm. Henry Hoit was declared to be duly elected Secretary, and Nahum Parker, Esq., Treasurer.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop of the Diocese then delivered his annual address.

A D D R E S S .

BELoved FRIENDS AND BRETHREN :

After the lapse of another year, the good Providence of our heavenly Father has allowed us again to assemble for purposes which should always be deeply interesting to us, the mutual relation of our labors during the intermediate period, and mutual consultation upon the best course to promote the welfare of the Church for the time to come. Pursuing the usual order of my duty, I shall first report my episcopal services since the last Convention, and then speak of those subjects which the present condition of the diocese seems to press more especially upon our attention.

On Tuesday, the 15th of October, I visited Montpelier, at the request of some friends of the Church, and held three services on the following Sunday, being the twenty first Sunday after Trinity, at the third of which, four persons were confirmed. The desire was expressed by many that a parish might be organized in this important place, but no immediate action was resolved on.

Tuesday, Oct. 22d, I visited Grace Church, Randolph, where I preached and confirmed one person.

Wednesday, Oct. 23d, I visited Christ Church, Bethel, where I was thankful to find the Rector, Rev. James Sabine, returned in safety from England, and ministering as formerly to his interesting flock. I preached and confirmed one person.

Thursday, Oct. 24th, I visited Royaltown, Rev. Nathaniel Sprague, officiating minister, where I preached twice.

Friday, Oct. 25th, I visited St. James' Church Woodstock, Rev. John Grigg, officiating minister, where I preached.

Sunday, Oct. 27th, being the twenty second after Trinity, I visited St. Paul's Church, Windsor, Rev. Oliver H. Staples officiating minister, where I preached and confirmed one person.

On Monday, Oct. 28th, I visited St. John's Church, Perkinsville, and preached in the evening. But the want of ministerial service, co-operating with other causes, has reduced this little flock so low, that the place may be considered missionary ground as much as ever.

The same remark may be applied to Union Church, Springfield, where I preached on Tuesday, the 29th Oct., and yet I have no doubt that the labors of a faithful and zealous clergyman would be abundantly rewarded in the latter place especially, if he could continue there with perseverance for a reasonable time.

On Thursday, the 31st Oct. I visited Emmanuel Church, Bellows Falls, Rev. Dr. Chase, Rector, where I preached twice and confirmed five persons; the rector and Rev. Mr. Livermore of New Hampshire assisting in the services.

On Saturday, the 2d of Nov. I visited St. Peter's Church, Brattleboro', and preached : and here, also, I am grieved to report the same result, and from the same causes, as in the case of Perkinsville and Springfield.

On Sunday, Nov. 3d, (being the 23d Sunday after Trinity,) I visited Christ Church, Guilford, Rev. John B. Pratt, Minister, where I preached twice, and confirmed three persons.

On Tuesday, Nov. 5th, I visited St. Peter's Church, Bennington, Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston, Rector, where I preached twice and confirmed ten persons.

On Thursday, Nov. 7th, I visited St. James' Church, Arlington, Rev. Anson B. Hard, Rector, where I preached twice to very small congregations.

On Friday, Nov. 8th, I visited Zion Church, Manchester, the Rev. John T. Sabine, Minister, where I preached once.

On Sunday, Nov. 10th, (being the 24th Sunday after Trinity,) I visited Trinity Church, Pawlet, where there is now but little remaining of the Church beyond the name. I preached in the morning at the Congregational, and in the afternoon at the Methodist House of Worship, both of which were kindly offered for the occasion.

On Monday, the 11th of Nov. I visited St. Paul's Church, Wells, to which the Rev. Lucius M. Purdy, of the diocese of New York, devoted the third part of his time, as Rector, and here I preached twice and confirmed one person, being assisted in the services by the Rev. Dr. Mason of Granville, who had formerly been their minister. At his urgent request, I accompanied him home, and preached at Granville the following day. But little did he or I suppose that a few short months would remove him from his earthly ministry, and close the prospect of his zealous labors for the Church of God. Many of you, brethren, remember him, as a promising physician; then as a candidate for Holy Orders in our iocese, and lastly, as an acceptable fellow-worker in the spiritual vineyard, where those who knew him looked forward to his increasing usefulness, with confident expectation. But the All-wise Disposer judged otherwise; and the early death of our brother, in the flower of his age, surrounded by his interesting family, and by an attached congregation, has given us another affecting warning of the uncertainty of our own mortal tenure, which it becomes us to lay solemnly to heart. May we have grace so to apply it, that when our own hour shall come, we may be found with our loins girt and our lights burning, like those who wait for their Lord.

On Wednesday, the 13th of Nov. I visited St. John's Church, Poultney, and preached twice, assisted by the Rector, Rev. Luman Foote.

On Friday, the 15th day of Nov. I visited St. Stephen's

Church, Tinnmouth, of which Rev. Mr. Foote was also Rector, where I preached and confirmed one person.

On Sunday, the 17th of November, (being the 25th Sunday after Trinity,) I visited Trinity Church, Rutland, the Rev. John A. Hicks, Rector, where I preached twice and confirmed five persons.

On Tuesday, the 19th of November, I visited St. Thomas' Church, Brandon, where I preached, and confirmed one person.

On Wednesday, the 20th, and Thursday, 21st of November, I visited St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury, the Rev. Jacob W. Diller, Rector, and preached twice.

On Friday, the 2d of Nov. I visited St. Paul's Church, Vergennes, the Rev. Nathan W. Munroe, Rector, where I preached, and confirmed two persons.

On Sunday, the 22d of December, in St. Paul's Church, Burlington, I confirmed nine persons; and in the same Church, on Sunday, the 31st of May, being the Sunday after Ascension, I confirmed four persons; and on Sunday, the 6th of September, inst., being the twelfth Sunday after Trinity, I confirmed three more; making an aggregate of sixteen persons in that parish since the last Convention.

On Tuesday, the 28th of January last, I visited Trinity Church, Fairfield, then under the ministerial care of Rev. John A. Spooner, of the diocese of New York, where I preached, and confirmed four persons.

On Wednesday, the 29th of January, I visited Christ Church, Enosburgh, Rev. Moore Bingham, Rector, where I enjoyed the high privilege of consecrating their new Church edifice to the service of Almighty God; the Rev. Messrs. M'Donald, Hoit, and Obear, together with the Rector, assisting. On this occasion, I preached to a very crowded and attentive congregation, and confirmed four persons. The building is of brick, with a handsome spire, surmounted by a gilt cross. The interior is arranged with great convenience, and the chancel exhibits the communion table or Altar, stand-

ing in the centre, as the prominent object, with the pulpit and desk on either side, the whole reflecting great credit upon the zeal and liberality of the parish.

On Monday, the 20th of July, I again visited Trinity Church, Fairfield, which was vacant, the Rev. Mr. Spooner having transferred his ministerial services to a parish in the diocese of New York. On this occasion I preached, and confirmed one person, the Rev. Messrs. M'Donald and Hoit assisting.

On Tuesday, the 21st of July, I visited Grace Church, Sheldon, the Rev. Louis M'Donald, Rector, where I preached, and confirmed five persons, the Rev. Charles Fay, of Highgate, assisting.

In the evening of the same day, I visited St. John's Church, Highgate, Rev. Charles Fay, Rector, where I preached, and confirmed thirteen persons. I was much gratified to find that an excellent parsonage, with a large garden, had been added to the Church property of this interesting parish by the zealous liberality which does not grow weary in well-doing. The ample Church-yard, too, had been surrounded with young trees, and the whole presented that aspect of good order, taste, and care, which Christians should always preserve in every thing belonging to the house of God—the place where his honor dwelleth.

On Wednesday, July 22d, I visited Calvary Church, Berkshire, Rev. Josiah Obear, Rector, where I preached in the afternoon, and in the evening of the same day, I visited Christ Church, Enosburgh, the Rev. Moore Bingham, Rector, where I preached.

On Thursday, July 23d, I visited Union Church, Montgomery, the Rev. Josiah Obear, Rector, where I preached, and confirmed seven persons.

The following day, the Rev. Mr. Obear accompanied me to Irasburgh, where I preached in the new Congregational Meeting-house, and we were afterwards hospitably entertained at the mansion of Ira Allen, Esq., who kindly sent

his carriage to convey us to Derby-Line. And at that village, which lies on the border of Lower Canada, I had the pleasure of beholding a new parish which had been organized by the Rev. N. W. Camp, within nine months, with an uncommon prospect of usefulness, under the name of St. John's Church, Derby-Line. They had erected a very chaste and commodious edifice accurately suited to our worship, had obtained an organ of sufficient compass and power, and had all things ready for the solemn act of consecration. The congregation and Vestrymen were composed, in nearly equal proportions, of the inhabitants on both sides of the line, and two highly esteemed brethen of our beloved Mother Church of England, the Rev. Messrs. Jackson and Reid, manifested their fraternal spirit by travelling a considerable distance to take part in the services of the day. Under these peculiarly interesting circumstances, on Sunday, the 26th of July, being the 6th Sunday after Trinity, I consecrated the building to the service of Almighty God, in regular form, the Rev. Messrs. Jackson and Reid, from Canada, and the Rev. Messrs. Obear and Camp of our own diocese, assisting. I preached twice to a very crowded and attentive audience, and confirmed two persons. In the evening I preached a third time in the Congregational Meeting-house at the village of Derby, the Rev. Mr. Camp assisting; and thus closed one of the most gratifying seasons which it has been allowed me to enjoy, since my entrance upon my official duties.

On Monday, the 7th day of September inst., I again left my home on my way to attend this present Convention, and preached the next evening by appointment, at Montpelier, in the Methodist House of Worship, which was kindly offered for the occasion. On the following day the friends of the Church drew up articles of association which were signed by several names of respectability and influence, and a new parish will be presented to you accordingly for admission into the Convention, by the name of Christ Church, Montpelier, on which I am sure you will all unite with me in supplicating the Divine blessing.

On Thursday, the 10th of this month, I visited Grace Church, Randolph, and preached in the Congregational Meeting-house, the Rev. Nathaniel Sprague of Royalton, assisting.

On Friday, the 11th day of the month, I visited Christ Church, Bethel, Rev. James Sabine, Rector, where I preached, and confirmed eight persons. The same evening, I visited St. Paul's Church, Royalton, Rev. Nathaniel Sprague, Rector, where I preached, and confirmed one person, the Rev. Joel Clapp, of Woodstock, assisting.

On Sunday last, being the 13th day of the month, and the thirteenth Sunday after Trinity, I visited St. James' Church, Woodstock, Rev. Joel Clapp, Rector, where I preached three times, and confirmed one person.

On the 5th day of April, being the 5th Sunday in Lent, I held a special ordination in St. Paul's Church, Burlington, where I admitted Rev. Josiah Perry to the Holy Order of Deacons, and the Rev. Messrs. Staples and Sprague, of this diocese, to the Holy Order of Priests. Mr. Perry had been a candidate of full standing in the diocese of New York, from which he was regularly transferred to us by the Right Rev. Bishop Onderdonk, on the 25th of last November. The candidates were presented by the Rev. William Henry Hoit, the sermon was preached by Rev. Jacob W. Diller, and both these brethren assisted in the ordination, and the other services of the day.

The ministerial changes in the diocese have been the following.

The Rev. John A. Spooner has resigned the charge of Trinity Church, Fairfield, and returned to the diocese of New York, of which he was a canonical resident at the last Convention.

The Rev. John A. Grigg has been transferred by letters dimissory to the diocese of New York.

The Rev. Luman Foote has resigned the parish of St. John's Church, Poultney, and officiated occasionally at St.

Paul's Church, Wells, but resides at his former parish of St. Stephen's Church, Tinmouth, to which his time is chiefly devoted.

The Rev. Charles Cleaveland has become the Rector of Trinity Church, Shelburne, which enjoys a fair prospect of increase under his care.

And the Rev. Joel Clapp has been transferred by the Right Rev. Bishop Griswold, from the diocese of Maine to his former diocese, in order that he might resume the rectorship of St. James' Church, Woodstock, a parish which, with many others in Vermont, owes its existence, under God, to his zealous labors. In thus returning to his old companions and friends he meets with a most cordial welcome, for notwithstanding the many ministerial changes and additions which our Journals have recorded since he left us, we are all well apprised of the fact that there are few men living to whose toils and energies the diocese stands so largely indebted.

To the above I have to add the ordinations of this day, when Mr. Ezekiel Hobart Sayles was admitted in your presence to the Holy Order of Deacons; and the Rev. Messrs. John T. Sabine and John B. Pratt were admitted to the Holy Order of Priests: the sermon being preached by the Rev. Wm. Henry Hoit, the Candidates presented by Rev. Messrs. Hoit and Fay, and the brethren assembled with us assisting.

One of the Candidates for Holy Orders, reported at the last Convention, John Henry Hopkins, has been stricken from the list at his own request, being desirous of studying the profession of the law, at present, in preference to Theology. Our list of Candidates, however, has received an accession in the person of George B. Manser, Esq. of Montpelier, which, with Messrs. Bostwick and Tyler, heretofore reported, makes the present number three.

The report of the Board of Agents for the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, through the unexpected absence of the Treasurer, will not, I am sorry to say, be laid before us.

Some very gratifying improvements in the architectural propriety and beauty of our Churches have been accomplished within the year, which claim a brief notice. The primitive position of the communion table, or altar, standing in the centre of the chancel and alone, with the pulpit on the one side, and the reading-desk upon the other, has been adopted in Burlington, and St. Albans; and in Derby and Enosburgh, the two new Churches, this arrangement was a part of the original design. Nothing is more certain than the fact, that the modern custom of making the pulpit the principal object in the Church, instead of the altar, is altogether unsupported by any authority in Scripture, in antiquity, or in the Mother Church of England.

In the concerns of the General Church, many interesting events have occurred since our last Convention. A mission to Constantinople, with particular relation to the Greek Church, has been commenced, under the most favorable auspices. The late Bishop of South Carolina, a man who stood in the front rank of estimation amongst us, for his personal worth and his official zeal and consistency, has departed, as we doubt not, to the paradise of the spirits of just men made perfect: and his place has been unanimously and happily supplied by the consecration of the Rev. Dr. Gadsden. The Diocese of Georgia has elected her first Bishop in the person of the Rev. Professor Elliott: and the important Diocese of Maryland, after having been, for many years, destitute of any Episcopal supervision which could be called her own, has at length composed all difficulties with singular unity, by the election of the Rev. Dr. Whittingham.

But the course of the past year is probably not marked by any event over which the Church at large has more reason to rejoice, than the arrangement of a mode in which our clergy can be admitted to officiate in the services of our venerable Mother Church of England. An act of Parliament which formerly stood in the way of

the kind feeling and desire of the Bishops and Clergy of England, is now happily repealed, through the liberal and catholic efforts of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and his Episcopal brethren, and therefore the only barrier which prevented the complete practical unity of our respective Churches is removed, I trust, forever. This circumstance is the more interesting to you and to myself, because I held many conferences with the Archbishop and Bishops on the subject when in England, and have reason to believe that I had the privilege of being, in some small degree, instrumental in bringing about the desired consummation. If the fatigue and trouble of the voyage had had no other consequence, I should esteem this to be a very ample reward.

But to return to our own diocese, the aggregate of my Episcopal duties during the past year furnishes a list of ninety-seven persons confirmed, two new Churches consecrated, two new parishes organized, two persons ordained deacons, four ordained priests, one of the clergy transferred to another diocese, one received, and two added by ordination, making our present number, including the Bishop, twenty-six. The general condition of the diocese is prosperous. The principles of the Church are better understood, and the prejudices against our institutions, which are usually the offspring of ignorance, are greatly lessened. Many have united with us, who, only a year since, were counted amongst our opposers; and the prospect before us is altogether such as calls for an expression of devout thankfulness for the past, and steadfast hope for the future.

The encouraging prospects of the Church, however, brethren, should not only incite us to gratitude, but urge upon us, most powerfully, the necessity of increased exertion. We have, at this moment, no less than nine parishes, once organized with a fair promise of usefulness, which have dwindled away almost to a mere name, for want of the ministry. Alburgh, Fairfax, Milton, Randolph, Perkinsville,

Springfield, Brattleborough, Pawlet, Norwich, Brandon, and now Montpelier, are in absolute need of some vigorous effort, in order that the root of Church principles planted with a good hope of fruitfulness, may not die utterly away. Besides these, already organized, and some of them, many years ago, there are several places in the diocese ready to organize, if a few weeks of ministerial labor could be spent upon them. It is therefore impossible that we should discharge our duty to the Redeemer and his Church without providing for the means of ministerial increase and training, and the measures necessary for this I hold to be the most urgent and important subject for your attention.

The establishment which, with the labor of years and the cost of all my property, I had designed, under Providence, for the accomplishment of this desirable end, was the subject, as you know, of sundry resolutions at two successive Conventions, by the last of which a committee was appointed to ascertain the condition of the Institution and the terms on which it could be made the property of the diocese. That committee met accordingly, and drew up a statement and form of subscription, which was distributed throughout the Diocese, but without any positive result, owing partly to the pressure of the times, partly, perhaps, to the engrossing interest in other matters, and chiefly, as I presume, to the want of that direct agency and urgency, without which experience has abundantly proved that no contributions for such purposes can be obtained. One of the resolutions of the last Convention made it obligatory on myself to use my efforts to raise funds amongst our sister dioceses. But it seemed to me that the action of Vermont, ought, if possible, to precede that of the other Churches, at least so far as to manifest the interest which was felt in the proposed design, and therefore I have waited in the hope that somewhat more definite might be effected at home, before I should go abroad. The subject is therefore still commended to you, under the increased conviction on my own part that it is in-

separably connected with the best interests of the diocese, and in the hope that with the good hand of our God upon us we shall live to see the time, when each of our parishes shall support a candidate of its own for the sacred ministry, and when the prayer commanded by our blessed Redeemer that the Lord of the harvest may send forth laborers into his harvest, shall be accompanied by the use of those means which the Church of Christ, in every age, has found to be indispensable.

There are two other subjects, brethren, to which it may be advisable to direct some attention.

The one is, the expediency of appointing an assistant minister for the parish of the Bishop, whose duty it would be to fulfil the office of Rector during the absence of the Bishop, and to act as missionary under his direction when he should be at home. I need hardly say to you that so long as I am the only parish minister in the Church of one of our chief towns, it is impossible that I should have as much time at my disposal as the increasing wants of the diocese require. And if the necessity of going abroad for pecuniary aid in order to establish our infant Theological Institutions should make my longer absence proper, it is absolutely indispensable that the Church at Burlington be regularly and sufficiently supplied. During my former absence for this purpose I bore the expences myself. But I am no longer able to do so. It may therefore, be expedient to consider whether you should not request the Board of Land Agents to set apart a moderate sum for the support of such an assistant, and either elect the person yourselves, or leave the appointment with the Board, or with the Standing Committee.

The other subject to which I have thought it might be well to invite your attention, is the publishing a second edition of our Constitution and Canons, the first being, as I am informed, out of print. And as this will afford an opportunity for making any change which the legislation of our General Convention, or our own experience during the last five years may

have rendered advisable, I should recommend your appointing a committee of three or more of the Clergy, to revise the constitution and canons, and report to the next Convention. To the Chairman of this committee every suggestion may be made by any individual member of the diocese, besides the opportunity which will be given in two successive Conventions before the revised system can become the law. And I trust the result will give us not only an improved and finished system, but one which shall establish the knowledge and authority of the laws of the Church in all our parishes, so that he who calls himself a Churchman, while he refuses obedience to the laws of the Church, shall have no more allowance, than he who calls himself a citizen and violates the laws of the land. For this, brethren, is the peculiar characteristic of the Church, that it is governed by settled principles of law and order, which are designed to operate alike on all, without exception. Those principles, once ascertained and fixed by competent authority, must command the same respect and cheerful acquiescence from Bishop and Clergy, from Parishes and People. The moment that a wilful opposition assumes the right to be above the law, our Church government is gone, our unity is broken, our peace is destroyed, the moral and religious power of our apostolic system becomes an idle boast, and discord and strife bring reproach and desolation upon the heritage of God. For non-conformity without the Church we are not responsible, but non-conformity within the Church should be looked upon by all her children as a total and absolute contradiction in terms, neither to be admitted in theory, nor tolerated in practice, by any true follower of the Prince of peace.

Standing together, then, beloved brethren, as one man, and striving together for the truth of the Gospel, may the Spirit of holiness, who is the Spirit of unity, direct and bless us, making us all the instruments of his sacred will in the establishment and increase of that Church, whose high ap-

pointment and privilege it is to proclaim glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men.

The Bishop's address being concluded, it was,

On motion, *resolved*, That a Committee, consisting of three clergymen and three laymen, be appointed, to report to this Convention on that part of the Bishop's address which relates to the appointment of an assistant minister to the Bishop's parish.

The Committee appointed were the Rev. Messrs. Diller, Sprague, and Munroe of the Clergy, and Messrs. Robbins, M'Donald, and Bailey of the Laity.

Messrs. Robbins and Doolittle were appointed a Committee, to nominate to the Convention a Committee on the revision of the Constitution and Canons of the Church in this diocese.

On motion, *resolved*, That a Committee of three Clergymen and three laymen be appointed, to report to this Convention on that part of the Bishop's address which relates to the subject of making provision for the purposes of education in the diocese.

The Committee appointed were the Rev. Dr. Chase, and the Rev. Messrs Hicks and Hoit of the Clergy, and Messrs. Pratt, Doolittle, and Parker of the Laity.

Messrs. Parker, Hawley, and Thrall were appointed a Committee on Finance.

On motion, the Parochial Reports were then read, and laid upon the Secretary's table for insertion in the Journal.

PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

Union Church, Montgomery.

The Rev. Josiah Obear, Rector.

Baptisms, (Adults, 3, Children, 5,) 8. Confirmed, 7. Burials, 2. Communicants,—added 3, removed 2, died 1, withdrawn 1, present number 71.

Calvary Church, East Berkshire.

The Rev. Josiah Obear, Rector,

Baptisms, 4 children. Marriage, 1. Burials, 2. Communicants,—added 2, removed 2, present number 56. There was a typographical error in the last year's report of this parish, as it appeared upon the Journal, in relation to the number of Communicants. It was printed 36 : it should have been 56.

Since the last report I have divided my time equally between this Parish and that of Montgomery. The condition of these parishes is, perhaps, as good as could be reasonably expected from the means used to advance their prosperity.

Christ's Church, Enosburgh.

The Rev. Moore Bingham, Rector.

Baptism, (Adult, 1, Infants, 2,) 3. Confirmed 4. Marriage, 1. Communicants, 37. Scholars in the Sunday-School, 20.

During the year that is past the House of Worship for the accommodation of the Parish has been finished and consecrated. The Congregation has somewhat increased, but still remains small.

Grace Church, Sheldon.

The Rev. Louis M'Donald, Rector.

Baptisms, 5 children. Confirmed, 5. Funerals, 2. Communicants added, 4.

St. John's Church, Highgate.

The Rev. Charles Fay, Rector.

Baptisms, (Adults, 5. Infants, 9.) 14. Confirmed, 13. Burials, 6. Communicants, added 13, removed 11, present number 62.

The Rector would here observe that the number of Baptisms and Burials is not altogether an index of the actual strength of the Parish, inasmuch as there are many Roman Catholic French residents, who look to the Episcopal Clergyman for officiating, for the most part, at their Marriages and Funerals, & sometimes the Baptism of their children. The fact is, that the numerical strength of the Church in Highgate is rather inconsiderable: its main prosperity, for the present, depends, under God, upon the zeal and liberality of a few.

Union Church, St. Albans.

The Rev. Wm. Henry Hoit, Rector.

Baptisms, (Adult, 1. Children, 5.) 6. Marriages, 3. Burials, 3. None have been confirmed, the proposed visitation by the Bishop having been deferred on account of the repairs which the Church-Edifice is undergoing. There are several persons, however, awaiting confirmation.

The ladies of the Parish have raised, through their own industry, upwards of \$200 within the year, for repairing and furnishing the Church, and for other benevolent purposes. The Congregation has also contributed about \$20 for missionary purposes, and for the Sunday-School.

The repairs and alterations in the Church-Edifice, to which reference is made, are in consequence both of the extremely incommodious arrangement which was originally adopted on the occasion of its erection, and also of the decay and injuries which it had received from the hand of time. The changes making will be very considerable, and the repairs thorough; and altogether, when completed, it is hoped it will be found worthy to be regarded as a model for Church-building in the diocese. The plan which is followed was kindly furnished

by the Bishop, and, as might justly be expected from such source, is in a high degree tasteful and commodious. The work, however, being still in progress, the proper time for reporting its result is not yet arrived.

St. Paul's Church, Burlington.

The Right Rev. John Henry Hopkins, D. D., Rector.

Baptisms, 16 children, (of which one was in Montpelier) 2 adults, total, 18. Persons confirmed, 16. Communicants, added 15, present number, 121. Marriages, (of which one was at Montpelier) 5. Funerals, 3.

Since the last report, the chancel of this Church has been considerably improved, and the ladies of the Parish have raised the sum of \$300 for the purpose of furnishing it with appropriate lamps and furniture. The Rector does not profess to be an advocate of this modern mode of raising funds for Church purposes, but he is bound to acknowledge that the zeal, industry, and strict decorum manifested on this occasion are worthy of all praise.

Trinity Church, Shelburne.

The Rev. Charles Cleveland, Rector.

Baptisms, 2 infants. Communicants, about 40.

A Sunday-School and Bible-Class have been commenced.

The services of the present Rector in the Parish began with the second Sunday after Easter last.

St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.

The Rev. Nathan W. Munroe, Rector.

Baptisms, (Adults, 3. Children, 14.) 17. Confirmed, 2, and there is a class of six or eight to be presented for confirmation the ensuing month, at the Bishop's annual visitation. Marriages, 2. Funerals, 4. Communicants, added 8, died 1, removed 3, absenting themselves 2, whole number 60. Sunday-School scholars, during the year 65, average attendance 40, Bible-Class, 35. Contributions for benevolent and religious purposes, \$50.

Our Parish, I am confident, never afforded its friends bet-

ter grounds for taking courage than at this time. Greater zeal and more devoted attachment to the principles of the Church appear to be manifested than heretofore, and a more regular attendance is given to her ministrations. The sacred music of the Church has been much improved; the Vestry Room has been fitted up with wardrobe, library, and other accommodations that were greatly needed; the interior of the Church has been made more neat and comfortable; and a female Sewing-Society has been formed, which, though small, promises to become an instrument of much good. Two services and the charge of a Sunday-School and Bible-Clas have devolved on me on Sundays, a weekly Lecture has been held during the most of the year, the principal Fasts and Festivals of the Church have been observed, and I have preached a number of times at the Waltham settlement.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.

The Rev. Jacob W. Diller, Rector.

Baptisms, (children,) 15. Marriages, 1. Funerals, 5. Communicants, (added 6, removed 4, withdrawn 2,) total 75.

During the past year the Congregation has not increased, and that part of it which comprised the Sunday-School has somewhat diminished in numbers; still I cannot believe that I have labored in vain. The Congregation have contributed about \$20 to the Sunday-School, \$10 to Missionary purposes, \$60 for the support of Singing, and have been ready, according to their means, in meeting other calls upon their liberality. I am ministering to a uniformly attentive, kind, and grateful people.

St. Thomas' Church, Brandon.

Edward Sherman, Lay-Reader.

Baptisms, (Adult, 1. Infants, 2.) 3. Confirmed, 1. Communicants, added 7, total 18. Sunday-School scholars, 20.

The services of the Church have been sustained by lay-reading with the exception of one Sunday, when the Rev. Mr. Hicks officiated.

Trinity Church, Rutland.

The Rev. John A. Hicks, Rector.

Baptisms, (Infants,) 9. Marriages, 2. Funerals, 4.—Communicants, added 5, removed 2, present number 47.

St. John's Church, Poultney.

The Rev. Lucius M. Purdy, (of the Diocese of New York,) officiating Minister.

Baptisms, (Infants,) 2. Burials, 3. Communicants, added 3, present number about 40.

Since the removal of the Rev. Mr. Foote, I have officiated a part of the time in Poultney, and he has supplied my place at Wells for a few Sundays. The above report dates from Easter last.

St. Paul's Church, Wells.

The Rev. Lucius M. Purdy, (of the Diocese of New York,) officiating Minister.

Confirmed, 1. Burial, 1. Communicants, died 1, removed 3, present number 21. Number of families, 12.

The Vestry have exerted themselves manfully in the erection of a beautiful Church-Edifice, which is nearly ready for consecration. The prospects of the parish are encouraging.

I have officiated, as often as health and my other engagements would permit, in Pawlet, Fairhaven, and other neighboring towns. I have found large congregations, a general interest in our services, and some zealous churchmen.—Communicants, not reported before, Pawlet about 15, Fairhaven, 8 Westhaven, 5. Castleton, 3. Middletown, 2.—Total 33. Burials, 2, an aged member of Church in Pawlet, and one in West Rutland.

Zion Church, Manchester.

The Rev. John T. Sabine, Minister.

Baptisms, 2, Marriage, 1. Funerals, 3. Communicants, about 35.

The present Minister took charge of the Parish in October last. The attendance upon public service has been

good, and the interest in the Church has been increasing and, we trust, will yet increase, by the blessing of God upon the faithful discharge of the duties of the ministry.

St. James' Church, Arlington.

The Rev. A. B. Hard, Rector.

Baptisms, (Adults,) 2. Marriages, 3. Funerals, 10. Communicants, removed 2, died 3, added 3, present number 80. Contributions to Foreign Missions, \$27 36 cts.

In the Parish Record my predecessor states that he enrolled on the list of Communicants members of other denominations, who were in the habit of communing at our table. I have enrolled, and now report to the Convention the names of none but Episcopalians. The ladies of the Congregation are exerting themselves with considerable zeal, in the capacity of a Sewing-Circle, with a view to the paying for a parsonage and ten acres of land which have been purchased.

St. Peter's Church, Bennington.

The Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston, Rector.

Baptisms, (Adults, 4. Children, 5.) 9. Confirmed, 10.—Marriages, 3. Burials, 3. Communicants, 25.

The Church is steadily progressing, and may be reported as flourishing.

Christ's Church, Guilford.

The Rev. John B. Pratt, Minister.

Baptisms, (Adults, 5. Children, 7.) 12. Confirmed, 3. Marriages, 6. Burials, 3. Communicants, added 6, removed 4, present number 40. Catechumens in the Sunday-School and at the monthly catechising, about 40.

St. Peter's Church, Brattleboro'.

Communicants, added 4, present number 13. Burials, 1.

The Rev. Mr. Pratt reports, that he has for several months holden a Sunday-Evening Service in this Parish once a fortnight; and that, if a large population, a considerable number of persons friendly to the Church, and the assiduous

promulgation of "erroneous and strange doctrines," constitute any just claim upon Christian beneficence, the Parish ought to be made a missionary station.

Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls.

The Rev. Carlton Chase, D. D., Rector.

Baptisms, (Adults, 3. Children, 6.) 9. Confirmed, 5. Marriages, 2. Burials, 6. Communicants, 100.

The Rector of the Church thinks it proper to mention here, that he has occasionally performed divine service and preached at Proctorsville, a village in the town of Caven-dish, where our Church has several pious members, and where, it is thought, much good might be done, if a mission-ary could be placed there.

St. Paul's Church, Windsor.

The Rev. O. H. Staples, Rector.

Baptisms, 5. Confirmed, 1. Burials, 3. Communicants, added 4, whole number 27.

St. James' Church, Woodstock.

The Rev. Joel Clapp, Rector.

Baptisms, (Children,) 4. Confirmed, 1. Burial, 1. Com-municants, about 50.

My residence in the Parish, since resuming the charge of it on the 12th of June last, has not been long enough to justify my speaking of its present condition. The Church has been opened constantly for three services on Sunday, and a lecture has been given in a private room on the Satur-day-evenings preceding the Communion. The Sunday-School, consisting of 11 Teachers, a Librarian, and about 50 Scholars, under the immediate superintendence of the Rector, is in a flourishing condition. A contribution of \$20 has been raised in the Parish for the increase of its Li-brary. I have baptized four children and attended one fu-neral, as above reported, and one has been added to the Communion by Confirmation. A Bible-Class, composed of those connected with the Sunday-School, meets at the Rec-tor's on Friday evenings.

St. Paul's Church, Royakton.

The Rev. Nathaniel Sprague, Rector.

Confirmed, 1. Marriages, 2. Funerals, 2. Communicants, removed 1, added 7, present number 37. The number reported at the last Convention was 19: it should have been 21.

Our Sunday-School is small, and the attendance, owing to causes beyond our control, rather irregular. There is nothing particular to report respecting the general interests of the Parish. The progress of our affairs, both spiritual and temporal, although moderate, is steady.

Christ Church, Bethel.

The Rev. James Sabine, Rector.

Baptisms, (Adult, 1. Infants, 7.) 8. Confirmed, 9. Marriages, 1. Communicants, about 100.

We have a Sunday-School during the summer months, and a Bible-Class during the winter, both of which, considering our sparse and scattered population, are well attended. Grace Church, Randolph, is under the care of Bethel, from which parish it sprang. I am sorry to add that Randolph is at present in a dormant condition, having no minister and no house in which to worship, and the Parish must be considered as missionary ground.

St. John's Church, Derby Line.

The Rev. N. W. Camp, Minister.

Baptisms, (Children,) 3. Confirmed, 2. Marriage, 1. Communicants, 14.

Since my ordination, which took place at the last sitting of the Convention at Middlebury, I have preached constantly, with the exception of three or four Sundays, in Derby, my native town. The Church then was not known, but by a very few individuals, and *they* never had the privilege of enjoying her services. By degrees, however, they became acquainted with the doctrines, discipline, and worship of the Church, and their attachment to her was soon evinced by a determination to secure, as soon as possible, the labors of

a Minister. The result was, that I was induced to move my family to a village situated upon the Line, known by the name of Derby-Line. A suitable place for worship was temporarily secured for our use, by the kindness of G. Chase, Esq., and an organ was purchased.

At the close of July last the Parish was organized, and our new Church was finished, which the Bishop consecrated, and also held a Confirmation. In the course of this fall a Sunday-School will be commenced. The ladies of the Congregation generously appropriated the sum of \$100, (part of the proceeds of a fair) to purchase carpets, screens, &c. I have officiated at a third service nearly every Sunday of the past year at a village near by, called Derby-Centre.

The services of the Church are generally well attended, and as her principles become known, are as generally appreciated. I may not conclude without adding that our prayers have been more than answered, and there is now a spirit of inquiry and attention to the soul's salvation on the part of some who a few months since "cared for none of these things."

The reading of the Parochial Reports being concluded,
On motion, the Convention adjourned, to meet again in
this place to-morrow morning at half past 8 o'clock.

St. James' Church, Woodstock, }
Sept. 17th, 1840, half past 8 o'clock. }

The Convention met according to adjournment.

Divine Service having been performed, the Convention was organized and proceeded to business.

Mr. Willard Wood appeared as a delegate from St. John's Church, Derby-Line, and took his seat in the Convention.

The Committee on nominations reported as follows:—

For Standing Committee, the Rev. Dr. Chase, and the Rev. Messrs. Joel Clapp, Charles Fay, Wm. Henry Hoit, and Jacob W. Diller.

For Delegates to the General Convention, the Rev. Dr. Chase, and the Rev. Messrs. John A. Hicks, Charles Fay, and Wm. Henry Hoit on the part of the Clergy; and Messrs. George Cleveland, Isaac Doolittle, Artemas Robbins, and Isaac F. Redfield on the part of the Laity.

For Preacher before the next Convention, the Rev. J. W. Diller; the Rev. Nathaniel Sprague to be his substitute.

Whereupon, after balloting as the Canon directs, these several nominations were respectively confirmed.

The Rev. Dr. Chase, the Rev. John A. Hicks, and the Rev. Wm. Henry Hoit were appointed Trustees for the General Theological Seminary on the part of this Diocese.

The Committee appointed to nominate a Committee on the revision of the Constitution and Canons, reported to the Convention the names of the Rev. Dr. Chase, the Rev. Joel Clapp, Charles Linsley, Esq. and Harmon Canfield, Esq., and, upon balloting, these nominations were confirmed.

The Committee on that part of the Bishop's address which relates to the subject of making provision for the purposes of education in the Diocese, reported as follows:—

“The Committee, to whom was referred so much of the Bishop's address as relates to Christian and Theological Education, ask leave to make the following report:—

“So far as their limited time would allow, they have endeavored to survey the subject in all its parts. They have taken into consideration the self-sacrificing measures and labors of the Bishop, the various suggestions and schemes of the zealous and benevolent, the depressed and inactive state of secular business and enterprise, rendering it apparently impossible to collect any considerable sums of money for public and benevolent purposes, and the comparatively small success which has attended all attempts to raise means abroad.

The result is, that they are constrained to despair entirely of the Diocese's being able, at least in the present inauspicious state of circumstances, to obtain funds for carrying out the great designs of our beloved and venerated Diocesan in regard to secular and theological learning. It seems necessary that the Diocese give up the idea of establishing a secular school for educating the children of Episcopalians according to the principles of the Church; and that, as respects the rearing of a ministry, it fall back on the old way of private instruction through the Bishop and the Pastors of Churches: ever recommending, at the same time, such as have the means, or can procure them, to the superior advantages of the General Theological Seminary in the city of New-York. The Committee would not be understood as recommending that the subject be wholly abandoned in final despair; but that it be postponed to a more efficient state of the Church, and to more auspicious times and circumstances.— All which is respectfully submitted."

On motion, the foregoing report was accepted by the Convention.

The Committee on that part of the Bishop's address relating to the subject of appointing an assistant minister to the Bishop's parish, reported the following resolutions for adoption by the Convention:—

"Resolved, That this Convention deem it highly desirable that the Bishop have such assistant.

Resolved, That the person who is to fill the office be appointed by the Bishop.

"Resolved, That the Board of Agents for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts be requested to appropriate to such assistant, out of any unappropriated funds of said Society, the sum of \$400 annually.

"By order and in behalf of the Committee,

"J. W. DILLER."

On motion, the report of the Committee was accepted.

On motion, the first of the foregoing resolutions was adopted.

The following resolution was then presented as a substitute for the 2d and 3d of the above, and, on motion, was adopted by the Convention :—

“Resolved, That this Convention recommend to the Board of Agents of the Church Lands, to make such addition to their annual appropriation for the support of the Bishop as will enable him to supply himself with such assistance as may be necessary in his Church at Burlington.”

On motion, *resolved*, That, in case of the occurrence of a vacancy in the delegation to the General Convention, it shall be in the power of any three members of the Standing Committee to supply the vacancy.

The Rev. Mr. Camp and Mr. Atwater were excused from further attendance on the sittings of the Convention.

The Committee on finance reported the following assessments upon the Parishes, to meet the current expenses of the year, viz :—

Union Church, Montgomery,	\$3,00
Calvary Church, Berkshire,	4,00
Christ Church, Enosburgh,	1,50
Grace Church, Sheldon,	3,50
St. John's Church, Highgate,	6,00
Union Church, St. Albans,	6,00
Trinity Church, Fairfield,	1,50
Christ Church, Fairfax,	1,50
St. Paul's Church, Burlington,	8,00
Trinity Church, Shelburne,	4,00
St. Paul's Church, Vergennes,	6,00
St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,	6,00
St. Thomas' Church, Brandon,	1,50
Trinity Church, Rutland,	6,00
St. John's Church, Poultney,	2,00
St. Stephen's Church, Tinnmouth,	1,00
St. Paul's Church, Wells,	2,00

Zion Church, Manchester,	\$4,00
St. James' Church, Arlington,	6,00
St. Peter's Church, Bennington,	2,00
Christ Church, Guilford,	2,50
St. Peter's Church, Brattleborough,	1,00
Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls,	6,00
St. Paul's Church, Windsor,	5,00
St. James' Church, Woodstock,	5,00
Christ Church, Bethel,	3,00
St. Paul's Church, Royalton,	1,50
Grace Church, Randolph,	2,00
Christ Church, Montpelier,	2,50
St. John's Church, Derby-Line,	2,00

\$106,00

On motion, the report of the Committee was adopted.

On motion, *resolved*, That the next Annual Convention of the Diocese be held in St. Paul's Church, Vergennes, at 9 o'clock, A. M., of the day appointed by the 5th Art. of the Constitution.

On motion, *resolved*, That the Secretary be and hereby is directed to cause 600 copies of the Journal of this Convention to be printed; and to send (in addition to the number as directed in Canon 16th) six copies to each Clergyman of the Diocese by mail, unless otherwise instructed by the Clergyman himself.

On motion, *resolved*, That after the customary religious services, this Convention shall be adjourned, *sine die*.

Whereupon, after singing, prayers, and the benediction of the Bishop, the Convention was adjourned *sine die*.

JOHN HENRY HOPKINS, D. D.,
President of the Convention.

Attest,

WM. HENRY HOIT,
Secretary.

A P P E N D I X I.

LIST OF THE CLERGY

IN THE DIOCESE OF VERMONT.

**The Rt. Rev. JOHN HENRY HOPKINS, D. D., Bishop
of the Diocese, and Rector of St. Paul's Church,
Burlington.**

P R E S B Y T E R S.

**The Rev. Moore Bingham, Rector of Christ Church, Enos-
burgh.**

**The Rev. Carlton Chase, D.D., Rector of Immanuel Church,
Bellows Falls.**

**The Rev. Charles Cleveland, Rector of Trinity Church,
Shelburne.**

**The Rev. Jacob W. Diller, Rector of St. Stephen's Church,
Middlebury.**

**The Rev. Charles Fay, Rector of St. John's Church, Highgate.
The Rev. Luman Foote.**

**The Rev. Anson B. Hard, Rector of St. James' Church,
Arlington.**

The Rev. John A. Hicks, Rector of Trinity Church, Rutland.

**The Rev. Wm. Henry Hoit, Rector of Union Church, St.
Albans.**

The Rev. Louis M'Donald, Rector of Grace Church, Sheldon.

**The Rev. Nathan W. Munroe, Rector of St. Paul's Church,
Vergennes.**

**The Rev. Josiah Obear, Rector of Calvary Church, East-
Berkshire, and Union Church, Montgomery.**

**The Rev. Joel Clapp, Rector of St. James' Church, Wood-
stock.**

The Rev. Benjamin C. C. Parker, residing in Woodstock.

The Rev. Richard Peck, residing in Sheldon.

The Rev. Josiah Perry,

The Rev. John B. Pratt, Rector of Christ Church, Guilford.

The Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston, Rector of St. Peter's Church, Bennington.

The Rev. James Sabine, Rector of Christ Church, Bethel.

The John T. Sabine, Rector of Zion Church, Manchester.

The Rev. Nathaniel Sprague, Rector of St. Paul's Church Royalton.

The Rev. Oliver H. Staples, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Windsor.

DEACONS.

The Rev. Norman Williams Camp, Minister of St. John's Church, Derby-Line.

The Rev. Ezekiel Hobert Sayles.

The Rev. Zadock Thompson, residing in Burlington.

Candidates for Holy Orders in the Diocese of Vermont.

Samuel B. Bostwick, Thomas P. Tyler, and George B. Manser.

APPENDIX II.

LIST OF THE PARISHES

IN THE DIOCESE OF VERMONT.

With the names of their respective Delegates to the
Convention of 1840.

Union Church, Montgomery.	
Calvary Church, Berkshire.	
Christ Church, Enosburgh.	Edward Baker.
Grace Church, Sheldon.	
St. John's Church, Highgate.	
Union Church, St. Albans.	
Trinity Church, Fairfield.	
Christ Church, Fairfax,	Lyman Hawley.
St. Paul's Church, Burlington,	Phineas Atwater.
Trinity Church, Shelburne.	Heman Chittenden.
St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.	
St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,	{ Nahum Parker, James M'Donald.
St. Thomas' Church, Brandon.	Charles Backus.
Trinity Church, Rutland.	{ Jonathan C. Thrall, Porter Howe.
St. John's Church, Poultney.	Amon Bailey.
St. Stephen's Church, Tinmouth.	
St. Paul's Church, Wells.	Warner Brown.
Trinity Church, Pawlet.	
Zion Church, Manchester.	William Benedict.
St. James' Church, Arlington,	{ Harmon Canfield, Zadock Hard.
St. Peter's Church, Bennington.	Isaac Doolittle.
Christ Church, Guilford.	

St. Peter's Church, Brattleborough.

Immanuel Church, Bellows Falls. Artemas Robbins.

St. Paul's Church, Windsor. Jonathan H. Hubbard.

**St. James' Church, Woodstock. { Amos Warren.
John A. Pratt.**

St. Paul's Church, Royalton. Joseph A. Dennison.

**Christ Church, Bethel. { Ezra Putnam,
Paul Flinn,
Hial Hatch.**

Grace Church, Randolph.

Christ Church, Montpelier.

St. John's Church, Derby-Line. Willard Wood.

St. Luke's Church, Alburgh.

St. Andrew's Church, Norwich.

St. John's Church, Perkinsville.

Union Church, Springfield.

Trinity Church, Milton.

**The Church in this Diocese comprises, besides its Bishop,
25 Clergymen, and 36 Parishes.**



NOTICE.

THE next annual Convention of this Diocese will be holden in St. Paul's Church, Vergennes, on the third Wednesday of September, 1841, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

W^m. HENRY HOIT,

Secretary.

Form of Certificate for Lay-Delegates.

"I hereby certify, that, at a meeting of the Vestry of — Church, —, holden, as the Canon directs, on Easter Monday in the year of our Lord —, A. B. and C. D., &c. members of the Vestry, were duly elected Delegates to represent the said Parish in the ensuing Convention of the Diocese."

"N. M., *Secretary of the Vestry.*"

THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF

CHARLES THE FIRST

BY

JOHN BURNET

1679

JOURNAL
OF
THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVENT
OF THE
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN THE
Diocese of Vermont;
BEING THE NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION SINCE
FULL ORGANIZATION OF THE DIOCESE;
HELD IN
ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, VERGENNES,
ON THE
15TH AND 16TH DAYS OF SEPTEMBER,
1841.

BURLINGTON:
CHAUNCEY GOODRICH.

1841.



JOURNAL.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, VERMONT, }
September 15th, 1841.

THIS being the day and place appointed for the meeting of the annual convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Vermont, the bishop, clergy, and lay-delegates from the parishes assembled in St. Paul's Church, and at 9 o'clock, A. M., the convention was called to order by the Rt. Rev. the bishop of the diocese, who took the chair, *ex officio*; the Rev. William Henry Hoit being secretary.

On calling the list of the clergy entitled to seats in the convention, and of the parishes entitled to representation therein, a quorum of both clergy and laity was found to be present, and the convention was duly organized.

The clergy present were

The Rt. Rev. John Henry Hopkins, D. D.,	
The Rev. C. Chase, D. D.,	The Rev. Nathan W. Munroe,
" Rev. Joel Clap,	" Rev. Josiah Perry,
" Rev. Charles Cleveland,	" Rev. Nath'l O. Preston,
" Rev. J. W. Diller,	" Rev. James Sabine,
" Rev. Anson B. Hard,	" Rev. John T. Sabine,
" Rev. John A. Hicks,	" Rev. E. H. Sayles,
" Rev. Wm. Henry Hoit,	" Rev. Nathaniel Sprague.

self complacency. A solemn and afflicting consciousness of responsibilities which I cannot successfully discharge, has long pressed, and at this moment presses upon me, and while there seems to me much in our ecclesiastical condition which demands penitence and prayer, there is exceedingly little within my own official sphere, to justify the tone of gratulation.

But I pass from these painful remarks to the formal detail of duty which the canons require to be set before you.

Immediately after the rising of the last convention, on Friday, the 18th of September, I visited St. Paul's Church, Windsor; but it was judged useless to attempt any public services, in consequence of a violent storm.

On Sunday, being the 14th after Trinity, I visited Emanuel Church, Bellows Falls, preached twice, and confirmed three persons; the Rector, Rev. Dr. Chase, assisting.

On Monday, the 21st of September, I visited St. Peter's Church, Brattleboro, and preached. This parish is reduced so as to be almost the shadow of a name.

On Tuesday, the 22d of September, I visited Christ Church, Guilford, preached, and confirmed six persons, the Rector, Rev. John B. Pratt, assisting. I am sorry to say that this parish has since become vacant, and that its condition is such as to afford small prospect of encouragement, for some time to come.

On Wednesday, the 23d of September, I visited St. Peter's Church, Bennington, and preached; the Rector, Rev. N. O. Preston, performing the other services.

On Thursday, the 24th, I visited St. James' Church, Arlington, where I was grieved to find the Rector, Rev. Anson B. Hard, confined to his house by sickness. I preached to a large congregation, and confirmed two persons.

On Friday, the 25th of September, I visited Zion Church, Manchester, Rev. John T. Sabine, rector; where I preached, and confirmed three persons.

On Sunday, being the 15th after Trinity, I visited St. Paul's Church, Wells, then under the pastoral care of Rev. Lucius M. Purdy of the diocese of N. York ; and was disappointed to find that the handsome new church which they had succeeded in erecting was not quite ready, according to arrangement, for consecration. The sight of such a building, however, in a village where it had so long been wanting, and the proof which it afforded of the zeal both of the minister and people, furnished abundant motives for thankfulness and praise. I preached in the morning in the old meeting-house to a respectable congregation, Rev. M. Purdy assisting, and proceeded with him to St. John's Church, Poultney, in the afternoon ; where I preached. That interesting parish was suffering much from ministerial destitution, co-operating with other causes, although Mr. Purdy had made every effort consistent with his other duties, to supply it with regular services, half the time.

On Monday, the 28th September, I visited St. Stephen's Church, Tinmouth, where I found the Rector, Rev. L. Foots, preparing to leave for the diocese of Michigan. I preached to a respectable congregation in the meeting-house, but saw little reason to hope that they would soon obtain any ministerial supply.

On Tuesday, the 29th of Sept., I visited Trinity Church, Rutland, and preached, assisted by the Rector, Rev. John A. Hicks.

On Wednesday, the 30th of Sept., I proceeded, with Rev. Mr. Hicks, to St. Thomas' Church, Brandon, where I preached at the Furnace and confirmed two persons, and preached again in the evening at the village. This young and interesting parish have since secured the services of Rev. Josiah Perry, and are going on prosperously under his pastoral care.

On Thursday, Oct. 1st, I visited St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury, Rev. Jacob W. Diller, Rector, where I preached.

advantages to the interests of the diocese and the usefulness of the episcopal office, must be quietly endured, along with the host of evils which the penurious and grudging spirit of our day inflicts upon the whole administration of the Gospel system.

The failure of my own efforts, and the ruin of my pecuniary prosperity, in the attempt to establish a diocesan seminary and Theological school, has made no change in my conviction of the importance of the measure to the advancement of the Church. And under the immediate supervision of Almighty God, I repeat what I have hitherto so often told you in vain—that without these institutions, the diocese will not and cannot prosper as it ought. I record this declaration as a matter of duty, but shall add no more.

And now, my brethren, let me beseech you to realize your own share of the awful responsibility which every soul of us, according to our station in society and in the Church, sustains in relation to the present position of our religious history. We of the clergy may doubtless be deficient in zeal and devotion, and assuredly your bishop ~~claims~~ no exemption from the charge. But how stands the matter with you, my brethren of the laity? What are those obligations which devolve upon you, as heads of families professing Christianity, and still more, as officers of the Church?

In the first place, let me affectionately ask how you discharge your duty in the visible manifestation of those good works by which your faith may be as surely known as the tree is known by its fruit? For the easiest mode by which the various sects of Christians around us can form a judgment of the Church is by the lives of those who belong to it. Are you, in this respect, a living epistle to be known and read of all men, lovers of peace, just, punctual, temperate, liberal, benevolent, and kind? Are your houses consecrated by the altar of family religion? And does the gentle but powerful influence of your good example tend to draw your

neighbors and friends to the Church by the practical argument, that the religion which is adopted by the best men must needs be the best religion ?

In the second place, permit me to ask, how you stand affected by the serious fact, that with thirty-six nominal congregations in the diocese, we have only three candidates for the ministry ? What are our young men trained up to value ? Are your children accustomed to hear the praises of the Gospel ministry from your lips, and taught to esteem it the highest privilege to be an ambassador of Christ, notwithstanding the trials and privations which often attend it ? Are your families reminded of the true standard of earthly things, and do they learn from your precepts to estimate above all others the treasure they possess in the worship of the Lord's house, and the ordinances of his sanctuary ? Above all, have you solemnly given up any of your sons to the Redeemer's service, so far as you have power to do so, and made it a subject of your daily supplications that they might be qualified by divine grace, to go forth as heralds of the Cross, in due season ? If so, beloved brethren, how is it that so few laborers are seen to enter the Lord's vineyard amongst us ? Do any of you really cherish the wild idea that the increase of our ministers demands no prayer and no effort ? Or have you a right to expect that other portions of the Church will produce a superfluity of candidates, by which our wants may be supplied, as well as their own ?

In the third place, allow me to inquire how far you exert yourselves to sustain your ministers ? Do you give at least a tithe of your yearly income for their maintenance, according to the rule of ancient Israel, and do you feel it a blessing to have a minister to support, when so large a majority of the world is still sitting in darkness ? Do you remember that you and yours belong to God, that you are not your own, but are bought with a price, even the precious blood of Christ ? And when you set down your subscription for his ministers,

do you honestly lift up your hearts to him, and give what you think he will approve in the great day. If so, brethren, how is it that so inadequate a maintenance is yielded to our clergy? how is it that so many amongst our parishoners are deficient in punctuality, making their minister's salary the last debt to be paid, and giving it out with a sinful reluctance, as if it were not a claim of the highest obligation? How is it that many parishes fall into arrears with their clergyman, and are neither alarmed nor ashamed to force him to give them up, under the actual fear of destitution? Be assured that all this will be laid up against our people before God, and especially against you who are officers amongst them. Sooner or later, if this grievous fault continues, our country will verify the awful description which we read in the third chapter of the book of Malachi. 'Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.—And all nations shall call you blessed, for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of hosts.' The history of ancient Israel, brethren, is recorded for our example, upon whom the ends of the world have come, (1 Cor. x. 11.); and no country, and no individual ever yet prospered in the end, who presumed to despise the warning.

Lastly, let me beseech you to ask yourselves whether you are not implicated in the too frequent want of success amongst the ministry? The days of miracles are past, and we must use the means—the regular, appointed means—if we would have the blessing. Now amongst these means, the prayers, the encouragement, and the active co-operation of the laity are indispensable. Especially are these incumbent on the

wardens and vestrymen, who, as officers in the congregation, are bound, beyond others, to every effort which may advance the spiritual welfare of the whole. It is not easy to estimate more highly than it deserves, the importance of your position in this respect. Without the hearty and zealous aid of a faithful vestry, it is next to impossible for any pastor to sustain himself long, while with this most useful auxiliary, a minister of reasonable powers and devotion to his duty may surely labor with increasing effect and acceptance ; growing, to the close of his stewardship, in spirituality and skill, and gaining in the same proportion, upon the respect and affections of his people.

But perhaps, my reverend brethren of the clergy, the interrogatories which we have put, in affection but with frankness, to our brethren of the laity, should in all honesty be turned upon ourselves, for in the long run, I doubt not that the common adage, 'Like people, like priest,' is founded on truth. Let us, then, not spare a close inquisition into the mode in which we discharge our high and solemn functions amongst them. Do we realize, as much as we ought, the tremendous responsibility attached to the cure of souls? Do we give our hearts, our thoughts, our affections, to the holy work committed to us? Do we pray for the spirit of meekness, humility, and self denial? Are we ready with our counsels and our supplications, in season and out of season? Do we endeavor to preach the gospel from house to house, and utter the same plain, practical and saving doctrines in our daily intercourse, which we set forth, more formally, from the pulpit, on the Lord's day? Do we leave the exciting topics of earthly government to the politician, and the empty trifling of light literature to the worldly, in order that our abilities may be concentrated upon the great and most difficult task of converting the careless hearts over whom the Lord has made us overseers? And are we indeed willing to suffer and to strive, with the spirit which animated the apostles, in our holy calling? Alas! alas! my beloved brethren, when

judgment begins at the house of God, I fear that we must put forth a cry for mercy. It is not that we have a right to expect that we can be sufficient for these things. The work, the effectual work, we know, must be of God and not of man. 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord.' (Zech. iv. 6.) But this is the very condemnation that we are bound to fear,—that we do not employ the instrumentality appointed by the Spirit, in the work of the Spirit. For the Spirit is promised to them that ask, that seek, that knock, that strive, that agonize. And if his work is not done under our stewardship, O how solemn is the reflection, that the fault may be our own? that the wicked man may indeed die in his iniquity, but that his blood may be required at our hands! Ezek. xxxiii. 8.

Beloved brethren of the clergy and the laity, you will readily believe me when I say that this strain of remark is not pleasant to my personal feelings. Far more agreeable would it be to me, if I could speak of the state of religion both here and throughout the Church at large, in the language of praise and gratulation. But in all honesty I cannot do this thing. Right glad am I to be told that the cause of God is prospering in other quarters. I trust that it may prove so. Gratefully do I acknowledge that there are some spots in our own field of labor where the seed of divine truth appears to be producing fruit. But when I think of the aspect which the Church ought to present—the yearly increase of parishes, and candidates, and clergy—and then look at the actual diminution in some places, and the difficulty with which they sustain themselves in many more, and from this, cast a glance over the zealous efforts which the objects of mere temporal interest call forth; I cannot in sincerity praise, nay, I cannot help mourning over the contrast, and feeling, in humiliation of soul, that 'the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light.' Lu. xvi. 8.

Let us all then, clergy and laity, with one accord, address

ourselves to that first of Christian duties, the looking to the Saviour in the spirit of an active and obedient faith, earnestly endeavoring to follow, with increasing devotion, his pure example, and realizing, through the power of divine grace, the privileges which we enjoy, as members of his Church, and subjects of his kingdom. In our conventional capacity, there is no peculiar faculty by which we can hope to benefit the spiritual interests of the diocese, while we neglect our own. The true and only effective principle of religious usefulness is the internal motive of the consecrated heart, for to that alone has the Most High God promised his blessing. And just in proportion to the consistent holiness of thought and conduct which we are enabled to manifest in all the other relations of life, will be the real advantages of our conventional union.

I would only express, in conclusion, beloved brethren, my own personal and official interest in your prayers, that I may be enabled to fulfil, with far more efficiency, the duties of a station for which few men are sufficient, and, probably, none less sufficient than myself. May He, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, vouchsafe to us all, for the precious sake of Christ, his grace and blessing. May he guide and direct our consultations by his unerring wisdom, and enable us, for the time to come, not only to advance steadfastly in our individual piety, but also to behold the welfare of the Church—the work of our divine Master—prospering in our hands.

The Bishop's address being concluded, it was on motion, *Resolved*, That Messrs. J. C. Thrall and Nahum Parker be appointed a committee on nominations.

The parochial reports were then read, and laid upon the secretary's table, for insertion in the journal.

PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

St. Luke's Church, Alburgh.

(*Vacant.*)

No report.

St. John's Church, Highgate.

(*Vacant.*)

No report.

Grace Church, Sheldon.

(*Vacant.*)

No report.

Calvary Church, Berkshire.

(*Vacant.*)

No report.

Union Church, Montgomery.

(*Vacant.*)

No report.

Christ Church, Enosburgh.

The Rev. Moore Bingham, Rector.

No report.

Trinity Church, Fairfield.

The Rev. E. H. Sayles, Minister.

Baptisms, (adults 3, infants 6,) 9. Burials, 3. Candidates for confirmation, 15. Communicants, about 60. The prospects of this parish are encouraging. Unity and confidence

have been fully restored, and at present there seems to be no obstacle in the way of sustaining the regular services of the Church. Our church, in some respects, presents a more neat and tasteful appearance than formerly, the desk and pulpit having been repaired, through the zeal and industry of the ladies. To the Vestry of Union Church, St. Alban's, we are indebted for an elegant Font, and to the Rector for a liberal sum towards sustaining our services. A Sunday School and Bible Class have been sustained since last spring. Our congregation is large and gradually increasing, and, on the whole, we have abundant reason for gratitude and renewed courage.

Christ Church, Fairfax.

The Rev. E. H. Sayles, Minister.

Baptisms, (adults) 3. Candidates for confirmation, 7. Communicants, 16. The members of this church are few in numbers, yet zealous and liberal, and manifest a disposition to sustain the services of the Church, even beyond their actual means. A Sunday School and Bible Class are regularly sustained. Our house of worship is too small for the ordinary congregation, and the attention of all is directed towards the erection of a church.

Union Church, St. Alban's.

The Rev. Wm. Henry Hoit, Rector.

Baptisms, (adults 4, children 5,) 9. Confirmed, 14. Marriages, 3. Burials, 3. Communicants, added 16, removed 7, present number 70. Only one communicant has actually removed from the parish within the year; but the names of six others, hitherto numbered upon the parish register, have been stricken from it, who have removed in former years, but whose removal has not till now been certainly ascertained.

The ladies of the parish have, by their industry, raised about \$200 within the year, for benevolent and religious uses.

The repairs and alterations upon the church, reported at the last convention as being in progress, have been for the most part completed; and its very greatly increased commodiousness, beauty, and fitness for the uses of public worship, render it a matter of devout gratitude to the Lord, that the parish, through him, should have been enabled to accomplish the work. The whole expenditure, when complete, will be very nearly \$2000.

Trinity Church, Milton.

(Vacant.)

No report.

St. Paul's Church, Burlington.

The Rt. Rev. John Henry Hopkins, D. D., Rector.

Baptisms, (adults 5, children 22,) 27. Confirmed, 12. Marriages, 7. Burials, 9. Communicants, added 15, removed 10, present number, 126. The services in this parish have been three on every Sunday, and a sermon on every day in **Passion Week**, besides the usual **Fast and Festival days**. Collections have been taken up, on Christmas day for domestic missions, \$90,00; and on Easter day for foreign missions, \$45,00. Contributions have been made for the Sunday School library, and a parish library. On the whole, the spiritual interests of the church are thought to be somewhat advancing, and its numbers rather on the increase.

Trinity Church, Shelburne.

The Rev. Charles Cleveland, Rector.

Baptisms, (adult 1, infants 4,) 5. Confirmed, 2. Marriages, 2. Burials, 4. Communicants added, 3. The Sunday School is continued.

St. Paul's Church, Vergennes.

The Rev. N. Watson Munroe, Rector.

Baptisms, (adults 2, infants 3,) 5. Confirmed, 14. Marriages, 2. Burials, 4. Communicants, added 15, removed 6, present number 60. Contributions for missionary purposes, \$30,00, for other religious uses, \$30,00.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury.

The Rev. Jacob Wm. Diller, Rector.

Baptisms, (children,) 19. Confirmed, 3. Marriages, 3. Burials, 7. Communicants, removed 5, withdrawn 2, died 2, added 5, present number 71. Several collections have been taken up in favor of missionary operations, and monthly collections for the Sunday School. The usual amount of pastoral duty has been performed, and I think the parish quite as flourishing as at any period since my connection with it. I have occasionally officiated in some of the villages in the neighborhood, and think that much good might result from the appointment of a missionary who would devote his whole time to them.

St. Thomas' Church, Brandon.

The Rev. Josiah Perry, Rector.

Baptisms, (adult 1, child 1,) 2. Marriages, 2. Burials, 3. Communicants, added 3, removed 4, present number 18. Contributions for domestic missions, \$10,00. This parish has had a corporate existence upwards of two years; and stated clerical ministrations less than one year. Previous to both, it enjoyed, for two or three years, the service of the Church, and a Sunday School in which much valuable religious instruction was imparted; both sustained principally by the persevering faithfulness of a lay-reader and two pious females, who, satisfied with the answer of a good conscience, look not to "be rewarded openly."

Previous to my connection with St. Thomas' Church, which dates from January last, I officiated alternately in Proctors-

ville and Springfield, for three or four months. In both places there are several communicants of the Church, and both present encouragement to missionary effort. At Springfield I baptized two adults.

Trinity Church, Rutland.

The Rev. John A. Hicks, Rector.

Baptism, (infant,) 1. Marriages, 4. Burials, 4. Communicants, same as in last year's report, 47. Contributions to domestic and foreign missions, \$40.

St. John's Church, Poultney.

The Rev. Lucius M. Purdy, (of the diocese of New York,) Minister.

Baptisms, (adult 1, infant 1,) 2. Marriages, 2. Burials, 3. Communicants, died 1, withdrawn 1, removed 3, added 7, present number 46. Of these, 19 are from neighboring towns in the diocese, where no parishes have been organized. Services on Sundays are alternately in this church and in the adjoining parish of Christ Church, Hampton, N. Y. Offerings of the Church for missions, about \$15,00

St. Paul's Church, Wells.

(*Vacant.*)

Burial, 1. Communicants, died 1, added 4, present number, 24.

The new church, which is a convenient and beautiful edifice, was opened for divine service first on the festival of the Nativity. It is yet waiting consecration. I have visited the parish frequently, but it has been destitute of services, most of the past year. The Rev. Messrs. Scovill and Punderson have officiated a few Sundays. Efforts are making to secure the services of a resident clergyman, in connexion with Trinity Church, Granville, N. Y.

*St. Stephen's Church, Tinnmouth.**(Vacant.)*

No report.

*Trinity Church, Pawlet.**(Vacant.)*

No report.

Zion's Church, Manchester.

The Rev. John T. Sabine, Rector.

Baptism, (infant,) 1. Confirmed, 3. Marriages, 3. Burials, 7. Communicants, removed 3, present number about 35.

St. James' Church, Arlington.

The Rev. A. B. Hard, Rector.

Baptism, 1. Confirmed, 2. Communicants, suspended 1, and his case reported to the Ordinary, according to the rubric, present number 79. Collection for missions on Easter Sunday, \$50.00. The vestry having adopted the plan of raising the current expenses of the parish from the annual renting of the pews, are highly gratified with the result.

The pastor of this church, having been in feeble health, has not been able to bestow the usual amount of either pulpit or parochial labor, and has, at times, entertained serious apprehensions of being obliged to relinquish the duties of the ministry altogether. The congregation appears united and harmonious, and as far as externals are concerned, prosperous and thriving.

St. Peter's Church, Bennington.

The Rev. N. O. Preston, Rector.

Baptism, (child,) 1. Marriages, 2. Burials, 4. Communicants, added 2, removed 4, withdrawn 1, present number 21. Although there has been a decrease in the number of communicants the past year, we still hope God has not

forsaken us. We have seen many a darker day than the present, threatening the destruction of our little church and congregation, and which has been invariably and beyond our expectations, succeeded by brighter ones. We hope, therefore, to rise again from our sadness. There has been, during the season past, an unusual number of strangers in our congregation, and in a private dwelling, about two miles from the church, I have during the summer held a third service once in a week, some 80 persons attending. The other services have been as usual.

Christ Church, Guilford.

(Vacant.)

Baptisms, (children,) 7. Marriages, 3. Burials, 3; which were attended by the Rev. Dr. Strong of St. James' Church, Greenfield, Mass., since the late rector of the parish removed. Communicants, added 4, removed 6, present number 38. The connection of the undersigned with this parish expired with the month of June last. Its present available means are insufficient for the support of a clergyman, and its prosperity is also endangered by division among the people, and by the intrusions, and efforts for its overthrow, of its enemies. These circumstances, together with the spiritual wants of the people, and the fact that this parish is the only representative of our primitive and apostolic Church in that part of the diocese, seem to render it important that a clergyman should be sustained there.

The Rev. Dr. Strong, and the Rev. Mr. Cutler, of the Diocese of Mass., have kindly officiated in the parish several times since it became vacant. Lay-reading has also been conducted by Mr. Thos. P. Tyler, a candidate for Holy Orders, of this diocese, residing at Brattleborough.

JOHN B. PRATT,

Late Rector of the Parish.

The undersigned would respectfully report to the Rt. Rev. the bishop, and to the convention of the diocese, that since his removal from the rectorship of Christ Church, Guilford, he has opened a school at Rockingham centre, within the parish of Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls, and has occasionally assisted the Rev. Rector of said parish.

JOHN B. PRATT.

St. Peter's Church, Brattleborough.

(Vacant.)

No report.

Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls.

The Rev. Carlton Chase, D. D., Rector.

Baptisms, (adults 2, children 8,) 10. Confirmed, 3. Marriage, 1. Burials, 5. Communicants 105. Sunday scholars, or catechumens, between 60 and 70. Of the persons deceased, as above, four were communicants, the other an infant.

Union Church, Springfield.

(Vacant.)

No report.

St. John's Church, Perkinsville.

(Vacant.)

No report.

St. Paul's Church, Windsor.

The Rev. O. H. Staples, Rector.

No report.

St. James' Church, Woodstock.

The Rev. Joel Clap, Rector.

Baptisms, (infants,) 4. Marriages, 2. Burials, 4. Com-

municants, died 2, removed 2, present number 56. During the past year the public services have been three services on Sunday, a lecture on Saturday evenings preceding the administration of the Holy Communion, and on Wednesday and Friday evenings during Lent, and morning prayer at an early hour every day in Passion week. Although there have been no very essential changes in this parish during the past year, yet I think, that under the divine blessing, its temporal and spiritual condition has been gradually improving.

St. Andrew's Church, Norwich.

(*Vacant.*)

No report.

St. Paul's Church, Royalton.

The Rev. Nathaniel Sprague, Rector.

Baptisms, (adults 2, infants 4,) 6. Marriage, 1. Burials, 2. Communicants, died 2, removed 3, added 3, which, including two ready to be confirmed, will make the present number the same as last year, 27. Our prosperity is gradual but regular.

Christ Church, Bethel.

The Rev. James Sabine, Rector.

No report.

Grace Church, Randolph.

(*Vacant.*)

No report.

Christ Church, Montpelier.

(*Vacant.*)

No report.

St. John's Church, Derby Line.

The Rev. Norman W. Camp, Minister.

Baptisms, (adults 3, children 18,) 21. There is a class of about 20 to be confirmed, whenever the bishop visits this parish. Marriage, 1. Burials, 2. Communicants, 20. Sunday School scholars, since its commencement, (last winter,) nearly 50, average attendance 35.

St. John's parish embraces three villages, viz: Derby Line in Vermont, Rock Island and Stanstead Plain in the Province of Canada. There are fifty-two families in the parish, and of these, thirty are in Canada and the remaining twenty-two in Vermont. In these fifty-two families there are nearly two hundred souls, and of these about one hundred and ten are regular church-goers.

Since my last report, I have made nearly three hundred parochial visits, and of these, about one hundred and seventy-five were in Canada, the remainder in Vermont. Of those who were baptized, fifteen came from Canada and the remainder from Vermont. Of the communicants, fourteen reside in Canada, the remainder in Vermont.

At the present time of writing, the parishioners on the Canada side are the most zealous in building up and securing the interests of the Church. By the blessing of God the Church is fast gaining ground in the affections of our people, and the strong bands of dissent in its protean forms are becoming gradually weaker and weaker. The blessing of God has evidently accompanied the feeble ministrations of his word, and the well filled church, the attention, and now and then the tearful eye, betoken the state of religious feeling, which we pray God may be still continued to us.

The Committee on nominations having reported a list of names for the elections to be made, the Convention proceeded to ballot thereupon.

The votes of the clerical members being given in, the President declared the following persons to be duly elected, viz :

For Standing Committee :

The Rev. Carlton Chase, D. D.,

“ Rev. Joel Clap,

“ Rev. William Henry Hoit,

“ Rev. Jacob William Diller,

“ Rev. N. Watson Munroe.

For Deputies to the General Convention :

The Rev. Carlton Chase, D. D.,

“ Rev. John A. Hicks,

“ William Henry Hoit,

“ Joel Clap.

The votes of the lay-members of the Convention being given in, the President declared the following persons to be duly elected, viz :

For Deputies to the General Convention :

Messrs. George Cleveland,

Isaac F. Redfield,

Alexander Fleming,

Isaac Doolittle.

The Rev. Nathaniel Sprague was chosen preacher before the next Convention ; the Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston to be his substitute.

The Secretary was instructed to prepare, under the direction of the Bishop, and procure to be printed, a blank form for the statistical part of the parochial reports ; to the end that greater uniformity and fulness may be secured therein.

On motion, the Convention adjourned, to meet again tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, VERGENNES, }
September 16th, 9 o'clock, A. M. }

The Convention met according to adjournment. Morning prayer was read by the Rev. Thos. P. Tyler. After call-

ing the roll, Messrs. Nahum Parker, J. C. Thrall, and T. F. Strong were appointed Committee of Finance.

The Treasurer of the Board of Agency for the Church lands, made a report to the Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the first Episcopal Society of Cambridge be admitted into union with this Convention.

On motion, Trinity Church, Rutland, was designated as the place of meeting of the next annual Convention of the Diocese.

On motion, *Resolved*, That some clergyman be appointed to preach a missionary sermon at the place of the meeting of the next Convention, on the evening next preceding said meeting.

The Rev. Mr. Clap was appointed to preach the sermon ; the Rev. Mr. Hicks to be his substitute.

The following preamble and resolutions were moved and unanimously adopted by the Convention, viz :

“Whereas, an effective Missionary operation is believed to be highly important to the interests of the Diocese, therefore,

“*Resolved*, That this Convention hereby recommend to the respective parishes in the Diocese, to raise by monthly collections, or such other method as the clergy may deem expedient, contributions for domestic missions.

“*Resolved*, That said contributions be paid quarterly into the hands of the Treasurer of the Convention, subject to the order of a Committee, consisting of the Bishop, as *ex officio*, chairman ; the Standing Committee of the Diocese ; and three Laymen, to be appointed by the lay-members of the Convention.

“*Resolved*, That the said Committee appropriate the funds thus raised, at their discretion, for missionary purposes within the Diocese, and report annually to the Convention.”

Messrs. Nahum Parker, R. G. Cole, and D. W. C. Clarke were appointed by the laity the Lay-members of the Committee.

The committee on Finance reported the following assessments upon the parishes, to meet the current expenses of the year, viz :

Union Church, Montgomery,	\$ 4,00
Calvary Church, Berkshire,	5,00
Christ Church, Enosburgh,	2,00
Grace Church, Sheldon,	4,00
St. John's Church, Highgate,	7,00
Union Church, St. Alban's,	8,00
Trinity Church, Fairfield,	2,00
Christ Church, Fairfax,	2,00
St. Paul's Church, Burlington,	12,00
Trinity Church, Shelburne,	5,00
St. Paul's Church, Vergennes,	7,00
St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,	8,00
St. Thomas' Church, Brandon,	5,00
Trinity Church, Rutland,	8,00
St. John's Church, Poultney,	3,00
St. Stephen's Church, Tinmouth,	2,00
St. Paul's Church, Wells,	3,00
Zion Church, Manchester,	5,00
St. James' Church, Arlington,	8,00
St. Peter's Church, Bennington,	6,00
Christ Church, Guilford,	3,00
St. Peter's Church, Brattleborough,	2,00
Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls,	9,00
St. Paul's Church, Windsor,	5,00
St. James' Church, Woodstock,	6,00
Christ Church, Bethel,	4,00
St. Paul's Church, Royalton,	4,00
Grace Church, Randolph,	2,00
Christ Church, Montpelier,	3,00
St. John's Church, Derby-Line,	3,00

\$147,00

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the secretary be and hereby is directed to cause 800 copies of the Journal of this Convention to be printed ; and to send (in addition to the number as directed in canon 16th) six copies to each clergyman of the diocese by mail, unless otherwise instructed by the clergyman himself.

On motion, *Resolved*, That after the customary religious services, this convention shall be adjourned, *sine die*.

Whereupon, after singing, prayers, and the benediction of the bishop, the convention was adjourned, *sine die*.

JOHN HENRY HOPKINS, D. D.,

President of the Convention.

Attest,

WM. HENRY HOIT,

Secretary.

APPENDIX I.

LIST OF THE CLERGY IN THE DIOCESE OF VERMONT.

The Rt. Rev. JOHN HENRY HOPKINS, D. D., Bishop
of the Diocese, and Rector of St. Paul's Church,
Burlington.

PRESBYTERS.

The Rev. Moore Bingham, Rector of Christ Church, Enos-
burgh.

The Rev. Carlton Chase, D. D., Rector of Immanuel Church,
Bellows' Falls.

The Rev. Joel Clap, Rector of St. James' Church, Wood-
stock.

The Rev. Charles Cleveland, Rector of Trinity Church, Shel-
burne.

The Rev. Jacob W. Diller, Rector of St. Stephen's Church,
Middlebury.

The Rev. Anson B. Hard, Rector of St. James' Church,
Arlington.

The Rev. John A. Hicks, Rector of Trinity Church, Rutland.

The Rev. Wm. Henry Hoit, Rector of Union Church, St.
Alban's.

The Rev. Louis McDonald, officiating at Cambridge.

The Rev. Nathan W. Monroe, Rector of St. Paul's Church,
Vergennes.

The Rev. Benjamin C. C. Parker, residing at Woodstock,
and acting as Missionary in parts adjacent.

The Rev. Richard Peck, residing at Sheldon.

The Rev. Josiah Perry, Rector of St. Thomas' Church,
Brandon.

The Rev. John B. Pratt, residing at Rockingham.

The Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston, Rector of St. Peter's
Church, Bennington.

The Rev. James Sabine, Rector of Christ Church, Bethel.

The Rev. John T. Sabine, Rector of Zion's Church, Man-
chester.

The Rev. Ezekiel H. Sayles, Rector of Trinity Church,
Fairfield, and Christ Church, Fairfax.

The Rev. Nathaniel Sprague, Rector of St. Paul's Church,
Royalton.

The Rev. Oliver H. Staples, Rector of St. Paul's Church,
Windsor.

DEACONS.

The Rev. Norman W. Camp, Minister of St. John's Church,
Derby Line.

The Rev. Zadock Thompson, residing at Burlington.

The Rev. Thomas P. Tyler.

CANDIDATES FOR HOLY ORDERS.

Samuel B. Bostwick, George B. Manser, and John A. Fitch.

APPENDIX II.

LIST OF THE PARISHES

IN THE DIOCESE OF VERMONT,

With the names of their respective Delegates in the
Convention of 1841.

St. Luke's Church, Alburgh.

St. John's Church, Highgate.

Grace Church, Sheldon.

Calvary Church, Berkshire.

Union Church, Montgomery.

Christ Church, Enosburgh.

Trinity Church, Fairfield,

{ Horatio Wakeman,
Joseph Bartram.

Union Church, St. Alban's.

Christ Church, Fairfax,

Andrew Buck.

Trinity Church, Milton.

St. Paul's Church, Burlington,

{ Phineas Atwater,
Robert Moody,
Timothy F. Strong.
Heman Chittenden.

Trinity Church, Shelburne,

St. Paul's Church, Vergennes,

{ Cyrus Booth,
W. T. Parker.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,

{ Dorastus Wooster,
Nahum Parker,
Wightman Chapman.

St. Thomas' Church, Brandon,

D. W. C. Clarke.

Trinity Church, Rutland,	{ Jonathan C. Thrall,
St. John's Church, Poultney,	{ Augustus L. Bissell.
St. Paul's Church, Wells,	Timothy Marshall.
St. Stephen's Church, Tinmouth.	Harvey Parks.
Trinity Church, Pawlet.	
Zion Church, Manchester,	John C. Roberts.
St. James' Church, Arlington,	Sylvester Deming, jr.
St. Peter's Church, Bennington.	
Christ Church, Guilford.	
St. Peter's Church, Brattleborough.	
Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls.	
Union Church, Springfield.	
St. John's Church, Perkinsville.	
St. Paul's Church, Windsor.	
St. James' Church, Woodstock,	Darius Blake.
St. Andrew's Church, Norwich.	
St. Paul's Church, Royalton.	
Christ Church, Bethel,	Paul Flinn.
Grace Church, Randolph.	
Christ Church, Montpelier.	
St. John's Church, Derby-Line.	
—— Church, Cambridge.	



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On motion, the report of the committee was adopted.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the secretary be and hereby is directed to cause 800 copies of the Journal of this Convention to be printed ; and to send (in addition to the number as directed in canon 16th) six copies to each clergyman of the diocese by mail, unless otherwise instructed by the clergyman himself.

On motion, *Resolved*, That after the customary religious services, this convention shall be adjourned, *sine die*.

Whereupon, after singing, prayers, and the benediction of the bishop, the convention was adjourned, *sine die*.

JOHN HENRY HOPKINS, D. D.,

President of the Convention.

Attest,

WM. HENRY HOIT,

Secretary.

APPENDIX I.

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IN THE DIOCESE OF VERMONT.

The Rt. Rev. JOHN HENRY HOPKINS, D. D., Bishop
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The Rev. Nathaniel O. Preston, Rector of St. Peter's
Church, Bennington.

The Rev. James Sabine, Rector of Christ Church, Bethel.

The Rev. John T. Sabine, Rector of Zion's Church, Man-
chester.

The Rev. Ezekiel H. Sayles, Rector of Trinity Church,
Fairfield, and Christ Church, Fairfax.

The Rev. Nathaniel Sprague, Rector of St. Paul's Church,
Royalton.

The Rev. Oliver H. Staples, Rector of St. Paul's Church,
Windsor.

DEACONS.

The Rev. Norman W. Camp, Minister of St. John's Church,
Derby Line.

The Rev. Zadock Thompson, residing at Burlington.

The Rev. Thomas P. Tyler.

CANDIDATES FOR HOLY ORDERS.

Samuel B. Bostwick, George B. Manser, and John A. Fitch.

APPENDIX II.

LIST OF THE PARISHES

IN THE DIOCESE OF VERMONT,

With the names of their respective Delegates in the
Convention of 1841.

St. Luke's Church, Alburgh.

St. John's Church, Highgate.

Grace Church, Sheldon.

Calvary Church, Berkshire.

Union Church, Montgomery.

Christ Church, Enosburgh.

Trinity Church, Fairfield,

{ Horatio Wakeman,
Joseph Bartram.

Union Church, St. Alban's.

Christ Church, Fairfax,

Andrew Buck.

Trinity Church, Milton.

St. Paul's Church, Burlington,

{ Phineas Atwater,
Robert Moody,
Timothy F. Strong.
Heman Chittenden.

Trinity Church, Shelburne,

St. Paul's Church, Vergennes,

{ Cyrus Booth,
W. T. Parker.

St. Stephen's Church, Middlebury,

{ Dorastus Wooster,
Nahum Parker,
Wightman Chapman.

St. Thomas' Church, Brandon,

D. W. C. Clarke.

Trinity Church, Rutland,	{ Jonathan C. Thrall,
St. John's Church, Poultney,	{ Augustus L. Bissell.
St. Paul's Church, Wells,	Timothy Marshall.
St. Stephen's Church, Tinmouth.	Harvey Parks.
Trinity Church, Pawlet.	
Zion Church, Manchester,	John C. Roberts.
St. James' Church, Arlington,	Sylvester Deming, jr.
St. Peter's Church, Bennington.	
Christ Church, Guilford.	
St. Peter's Church, Brattleborough.	
Immanuel Church, Bellows' Falls.	
Union Church, Springfield.	
St. John's Church, Perkinsville.	
St. Paul's Church, Windsor.	
St. James' Church, Woodstock,	Darius Blake.
St. Andrew's Church, Norwich.	
St. Paul's Church, Royalton.	
Christ Church, Bethel,	Paul Flinn.
Grace Church, Randolph.	
Christ Church, Montpelier.	
St. John's Church, Derby-Line.	
—— Church, Cambridge.	

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